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Mitsurou Kubo

No.

7

No.
7

Mitsurou
Kubo

Again!!

アゲイン!!

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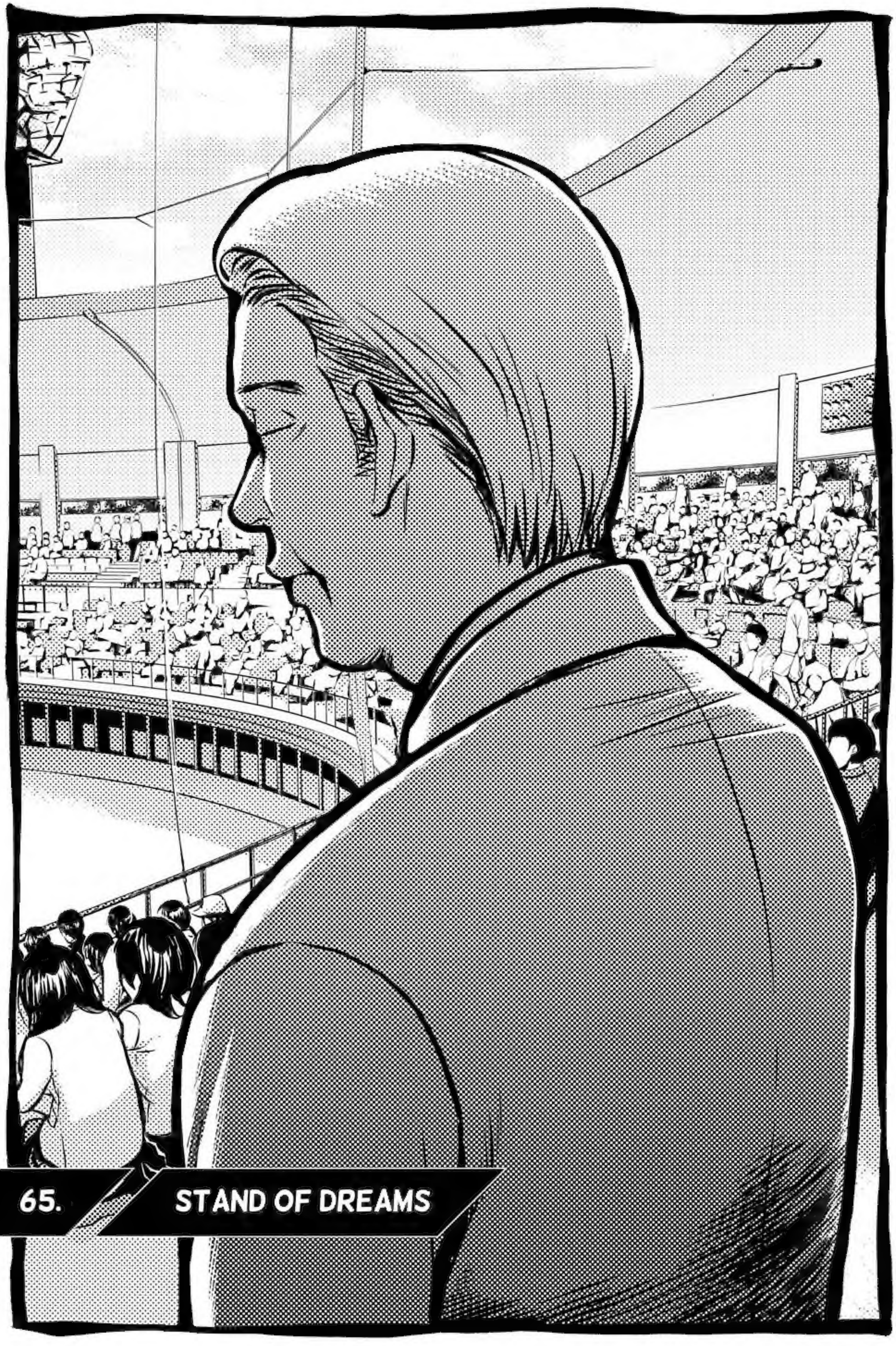

65.
STAND OF DREAMS

CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
W

CHATTER

CHATTER

CHATTER

HEY!

IT'S SUZUKI!

WAH!

CHATTER

10

IT'S OFFICIAL, NOW! YOU'RE OUR FIRST-YEAR ACE!

AFTER WE'D SEEN YOU HOLD THEM BACK FOR THE REST OF THE GAME, THOUGH, YOU SHOULD'VE HEARD HOW LOUD WE GOT IN THE STANDS.

UH ...

I THOUGHT WE WERE DONE FOR WHEN THEY SCORED ALL THOSE RUNS AT ONCE, BUT DAMN!

YOU WERE AMAZING OUT THERE!

KANAI

WAAAA

WOW, SUZUKI.

YOU'RE POPULAR ALL OF A SUDDEN.

WAAAA

IF WE CAN KEEP THIS UP, WE MIGHT EVEN MAKE IT TO THE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP THIS YEAR, HUH?

IT'S GONNA BE A NEW ERA FOR THE KANAN BASEBALL CLUB!

WAAAA

HE MAY HAVE QUIT THE TEAM BEFORE THIS DO-OVER, BUT I GUESS HE'S GOT A GIFT FOR BASEBALL AFTER ALL.

OH MY GOD! ♥ THERE HE IS!

I WAS THINK-ING-

UH ...

SO ...

WHAT?

HEY, IMA-MURA-KUN.

I WANT ONE, TOO!

WAIT, WITH ME?

CAN WE TAKE A PHOTO WITH YOU?

DO YOU HAVE A SEC?

I-IMAMURA-KUN!

HUSTLE HUSTLE

SNAP

SNAP

SNAP

SQUEEE

DO ME, TOO.

HEY, WOULD YOU TAKE IT?

WHAT'S WRONG WITH THESE GIRLS?

WOW!

WH-

HE'S SO CUTE!!

HEY, IMAMURA! WE'RE HAVING A DEBRIEF! COME JOIN US!

OSU CITY PUBLIC BASEBALL STADI

ATTEN-
TION!

BUT OUR BASE-BALL TEAM PUT UP ONE HELL OF A FIGHT, AND I'D SAY YOU GUYS DID YOUR HONEST BEST.

WE LOST.

WELL ...

NOD

UUD

MR. PRINCI-PAL?

RIGHT?

THE OUEN-DAN'S DOING WELL.

PLEASE KEEP IT UP.

BADUMP

1

USAMI!

THEY PROB-ABLY LIKE YOU WELL ENOUGH.

HMM ?

BESIDES, WHO KNOWS WHAT THE OTHER STUDENTS THINK OF US?

FIDGET

BUT SIR ...

WE *DID* LOSE.

FIDGET

2

THE WHOLE TEAM IS DYING TO TAKE A PICTURE WITH YOU GUYS.

HEY.

CAP-TAIN?

KANAN

HUH?

LOOK-ING GOOD!

SMILE!

MAKE A PEACE SIGN, YOU GUYS!

HERE WE GO!

OKAY!

OKAY, NOW SAY CHEESE!

SNAP

YOU SHOULD CHEER US ON LIKE THAT AT THE NATIONAL CHAMPION-SHIP!

IT WAS FUN WATCH-ING YOU CHEER!

THANKS FOR EVERY-THING!

WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU, USAMI!

GET IN THE PICTURE.

COME ON.

BADUMP

ドキ"

USAMI-SAN!

SNAP

...

...

WE'RE PRAC-TICING MORE NEXT TIME.

HMPH.

FLINCH

USAMI!

SNAP

Osu! Please shake my hand!

Huh?

May I take a picture with you as well?

Huh?

Osu!

I'll upload this to Facebook.

YOU EVEN HAVE SOME FANS IN OUR OWN. YOU ALWAYS HAVE.

WELL USAMI, IT APPEARS YOU'VE BECOME A FINE CAPTAIN TO YOUR OUENDAN.

IWA-SAKI ...

DOKI DOKI

...I FELL FOR YOU ALL OVER AGAIN.

TODAY ...

CHI-CHAN!

Mm....

Hum....!!

Come on!

WELL IF IT ISN'T MICH-ELLE.

YOU WERE SO COOL OUT THERE, BABE!

MICHELLE AND I ARE GOING STEADY, SO TO SPEAK.

SO I CAN'T BE YOUR BOY-FRIEND,

BUT I HOPE WE CAN CONTINUE TO HAVE A FRIENDLY RIVALRY.

SHOW

DAMN.

WE DID THINGS OVER AND YOU STILL GOT RE-JECTED, CAPTAIN.

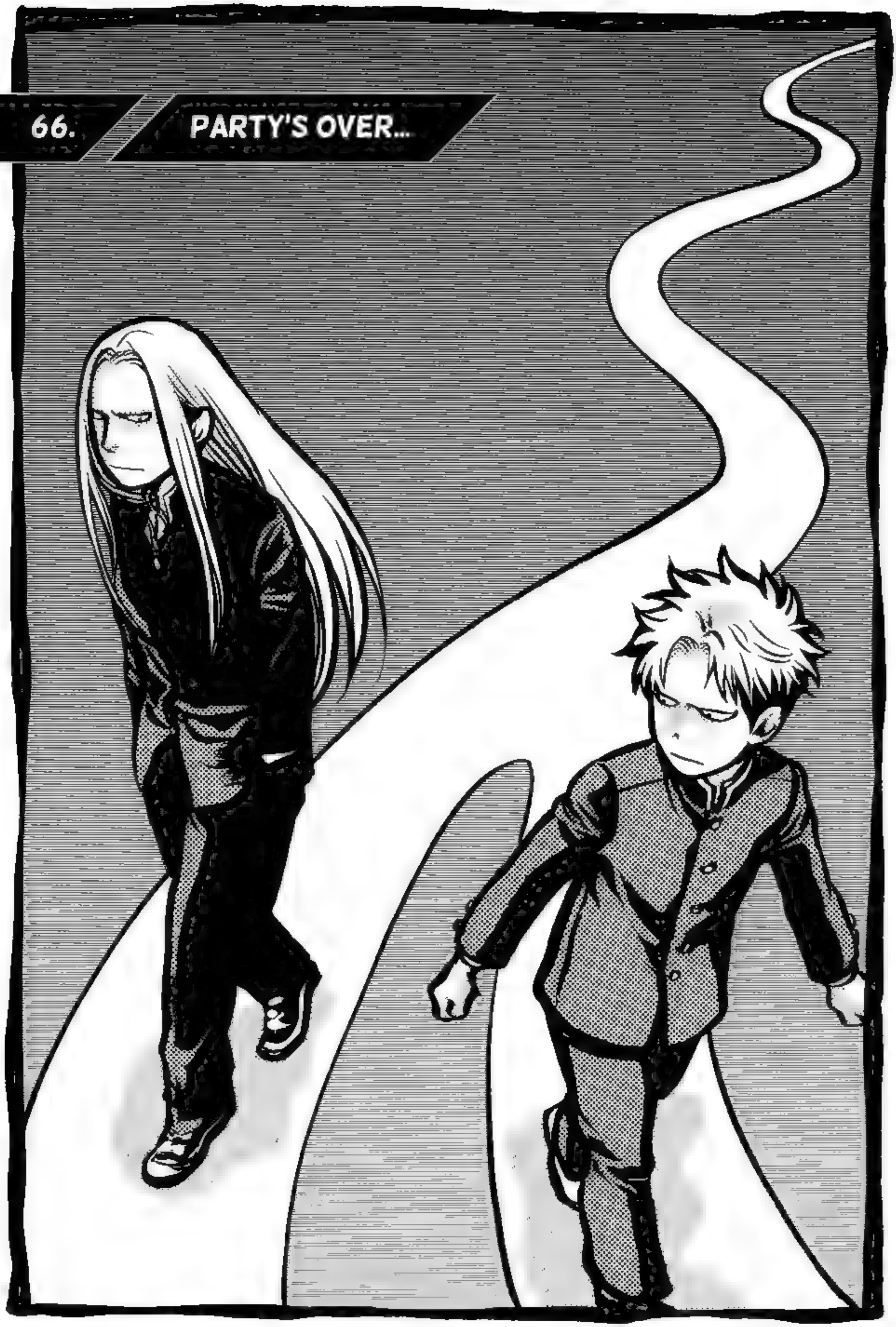
I HOPE KABO-KOKU GETS SHUT DOWN!

I-I HOPE ...

Again!!

アゲイン!!

66. PARTY'S OVER...



SNAP
SNAP

MOM, WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?
...

UH-HUH! SORRY, HONEY!
Now come get your breakfast!
I'D RATHER YOU NOT TAKE PICTURES OF ME SLEEPING.

KIN-CHAN! GOOD MORNING!
HUH?
OH, YOU KNOW! JUST TRYING OUT MY CAMERA, SINCE I GOT A NEW PHONE AND ALL!

I'LL BE BACK AROUND SIX.

OH, NAH.

I'M GOING TO BE HOME A LITTLE LATE TONIGHT. WHEN WILL YOU BE BACK, KIN-CHAN?

DO YOU MIND WAITING FOR DINNER?

OH! BY THE WAY ...

YOU MUST MEAN THOSE SQUEALING LADIES...

OH YEAH ...

HUH?

So, hey! These are my new friends. They're all fans of yours!

Kin-chan! ♥ I came after all!

I'VE NEVER SEEN ONE BEFORE, SO THEY'RE TAKING ME! ♥

APPARENTLY, THE OTHER MOMS I MET AT THAT GAME YOU CHEERED AT ARE INTO TAKARAZUKA MUSICALS!

THESE ARE THE FIRST MOM FRIENDS I'VE MADE SINCE MOVING HERE.

I OWE YOU ONE, KIN-CHAN.

NICE.

I'M HAPPY FOR YOU.

...

PLOD

PLOD

SILENCE

HALT

SAITAMA PREFECTURE KABOSU MINAMI HIGH SCHOOL

CHATTER

CHATTER

HEY.

MORNING, IMAMURA.

NICE HAIRCUT, REO! IT'S SO CUTE.

YOU THINK?

HEY.

WHO ARE THEY?

GOOD MORNING, IMAMURA. ♥

ぼへっ

HEY.

GOOD MORNING.

MORNING.

GOOD MORNING, IMAMURA!

YOU'VE SEEMED OFF SINCE THE PRACTICE GAME.

I'VE BEEN WONDERING, TOO.

HEY, REO. ARE YOU, LIKE, AVOIDING IMAMURA NOW?

DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?

...

SHUF

NO.

NOT REALLY.

NOW I FEEL LIKE A FOOL FOR TAKING HER SERIOUSLY.

DAMN.

WHATEVER, I GUESS.

WOOOO

WOOOOO

I MEAN...

KLEZOOM

PHOO!

KAPAN

PHOO!

EEEEEE

MOVE ALONG, YOU GUYS. YOU'RE IN THE WAY.

SU-ZU-KIII! ♥

BOOING

MI-NEKO?

DOES HE HAVE A GIRL-FRIEND?

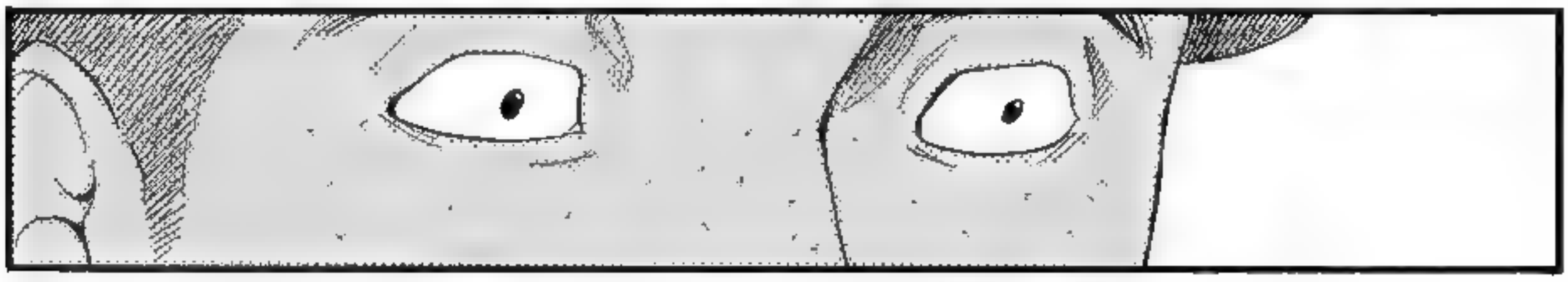
SUZUKI'S PRETTY HANDSOME, HUH? WASN'T HE AMAZING AT THE PRACTICE GAME?

SQUEE SQUEE

WE SHOULD ASK.

SHUMP

I WANT TO GET CLOSE WITH YOU AGAIN, LIKE THE OLD DAYS!
YOU WANT TO TALK TO ME?
THERE'S SOME STUFF I WANT TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT.
HEY, SO I WAS WONDERING. WANNA GRAB A BITE SOMEWHERE ON OUR WAY HOME?
WHY NOT TALK TO THE CAPTAIN?



G-GOD!
TALK TO SOMEBODY ELSE ABOUT IT.
ACTUALLY, MY HANDS ARE PRETTY FULL WITH MY OWN STUFF RIGHT NOW.
ONE AND TWO AND THREE AND FOUR!
HMM?

OSU!

ONE AND TWO!

...

QUIT SLACKING AND SHOW ME SOME HUSTLE!

AND THREE AND FOUR!

KANAN!

SUZUKI AND I TALKED FOR A MINUTE AFTER THE PRACTICE GAME.

CHATTER

GOOO!

GO TEAM!

GO TEAM!

GOOO!

KANAN

HEY! IMA-MURA!

SAME TO YOU, MAN!

H-

HEY, SUZUKI! GOOD JOB OUT THERE!

I GOT SO PUMPED I FORGOT IT WAS A PRACTICE GAME.

YOU GUYS WERE AMAZING, THE WAY YOU CHEERED US ON! THANK YOU SO MUCH!

KRACK

OH, COME ON! I KNOW YOU THOUGHT WE WERE GONNA LOSE WHEN THEY SCORED ALL THOSE RUNS IN THE SECOND INNING. AND, WELL, WE DID.

I MEAN, WE LOST, BUT STILL.

YOU'RE THE AMAZING ONE, SUZUKI. YOU DID ALL THE PITCHING YOURSELF!

I WANT YOU TO CHEER ME ON AGAIN, OKAY?

BUT WE'LL MAKE UP FOR TODAY AT THE SUMMER CHAMPION-SHIP.

(PANT)
(PANT)
IMA-MURA!
DASH!!
3 HUNDRED LAPS!
3 HUNDRED LAPS!
OSU!
WHEEZE PAANT
I SEE YOU SPACING OUT!
FWISH!!
WHEEZE
DO IT RIGHT.
YELL!
...BUT IN THE END, THE OUENDAN SURVIVED.
IT'S THOSE OUENDAN KIDS!!
OH, LOOK!
WE LOST THE GAME ...
TRAIN HARD, YOU GUYS!

SO DO I REALLY HAVE THE RIGHT TO KEEP DOING THIS?

I COULDN'T BELIEVE IN SUZUKI THROUGH TO THE VERY END, THOUGH...

TUP

TUP

TUP

TUP

SNAP

MAYBE IT'S TRUE.

MAYBE WE WOULDN'T LOSE IF IT WEREN'T FOR ME.

... WHAT AM I SAY-ING ?

I'VE GOT NEWS FOR YOU!

BIG NEWS!

?

KITA-JIMA SEN-SEI!

HEEEY!

USAMI !

GWUH

HUH ?!

THERE WERE THREE OF THEM!

I JUST GOT A VISIT...

...FROM SOME STUDENTS HOPING TO JOIN THE OUENDAN!

THEY SAID THEY'VE ADMIRED YOU GUYS SINCE THE PRACTICE GAME!

THEY DIDN'T SEEM QUITE READY TO COMMIT, BUT THEY'RE WILLING TO HELP US OUT UNTIL THE BASEBALL TOURNAMENT THIS SUMMER!

TWO GIRLS AND A BOY.

ISN'T THAT GREAT ?

はぁ

BLUU-USH

あぁ…

NO MAN WILL TAKE YOU FROM ME!

IT'S GOTTEN WORSE.

SOMEBODY'S EXCITED.

GASP

WHAT'S WITH THAT FACE, IMAMURA?

THEY ADMIRE US, HUH?

REALLY?

AWWW, WHAT?

I GOT WHAT I WANTED OUT OF THIS DO-OVER...

...SO WHAT'S BOTHERING ME SO MUCH?

IT'S NOTHING... NOTHING AT ALL...

HEH HEH HEH HEH

HEH HEH HEH HEH

67. DIRTY DO-OVER!

Y'KNOW, I'VE BEEN THINKING ...

SASASA

LATE-LY, SOME-THING SEEMS SORT OF OFF ABOUT YOU, HIRO-KUN.

IT'S JUST YOUR IMAGI-NATION.

NO!

THE HIRO-KUN I KNOW IS GOOD AT BOOK LEARNING BUT CAN'T APPLY ANY OF IT! HE ACTS LIKE HE'S ALL SMART AND COOL BUT HE'S ACTUALLY JUST A BIG DOOFUS!

NOW YOU'RE ACTING ALL HIGH-AND-MIGHTY LIKE YOU'RE THE ONLY PERSON IN THE WORLD WHO MATTERS, AND I DON'T GET WHY!

YOU'VE BEEN SKIPPING SOCCER PRACTICE LATELY, TOO.

WHAT HAP-PENED?

SOCCER USED TO BE ALL YOU CARED ABOUT! REMEM-

SHUT UP!

EVEN IF I KEPT GOING, IT'S NOT LIKE I EVER GOT ON OUR TEAM'S STARTING LINEUP!

FWISH

HUH ...?

HIRO-KUN ...

HOW ...?

THAT WAS BEFORE THE DO-OVER.

FLINCH

OOP-

AH!

AAAAGH!!

IT FEELS LIKE IT'S ABOUT TO BURST!

MY HEAD!

UGH!

GUUH!

DREAMS?

HUH?!

BUT THAT CAN'T BE. I HAVE TO BE IMAGIN-ING IT...

AGH, MY HEAD! IT HURTS!

I'VE BEEN HAVING THESE DREAMS... THEY'RE SO REAL IT'S LIKE I'M SEEING THE FUTURE...

I'D PROBABLY LOSE IT IF I KNEW THE FUTURE! NOOO! I'M SO SCARED!

STUFF LIKE THAT DOESN'T HAPPEN IN REAL LIFE! DOES IT?

AKI!

GO GET ME A SHRIMP-AND-MAYO RICE BALL FROM THE CORNER STORE...

THAT MIGHT HELP MY HEAD STOP HURT-ING.

RIGHT! ON IT! JUST WAIT THERE!

DASH

WHAT'S GOING ON? IS OUR DO-OVER CHANGING SPACE-TIME ITSELF? MAYBE HIRO-KUN'S MEMORIES FROM NOW AND THREE YEARS IN THE FUTURE GOT LINKED TOGETHER SOMEHOW...

OF COURSE, THAT'S JUST A GUESS...

AGH!

HE MIGHT DIE OF SHOCK IF I TELL HIM ABOUT THIS STUFF, THOUGH.

...

THINGS WERE ABOUT TO GET COMPLI-CATED.

THAT WAS CLOSE.

BUT I THINK I'LL KEEP THAT MY LITTLE SECRET FOR NOW.

I'M DOING THINGS OVER, TOO.

HEY! IMAMURA! IS THIS GUY REALLY DOING THINGS OVER TOO?

Hey!

YOU'RE ONE TO TALK.

WHOA!

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN THERE EAVES-DROP-PING?!

JUMP

SMACK

SMACK

SMACK

DON'T PLAY DUMB WITH ME!

MY HEAD.

IT'S GONNA BURST. OOF...

WHAT THE HELL?! YOU'RE DOING THINGS OVER AGAIN, TOO, NOW?!

NO WAY ...

I'LL BE RIGHT BACK!

See ya!

WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF PRAC-TICE!

IMA-MURA!

GET OVER HERE.

STOP IT!

DRAG

DRAG

IT STILL FEELS LIKE A DREAM TO ME.

I'M LOOKING INTO WHETHER WE'VE ACTUALLY GONE THREE YEARS BACK IN TIME FROM 2014 OR WHAT.

I'M NOT SURE IF THIS IS REALLY THE PAST.

DO YOU HAVE A WAY BACK?

HOW DID YOU GET HERE, HIRO-KUN?

WHAT'S HAPPENED TO ME IN THE WORLD WE'RE FROM?!

THEN I'LL TELL YOU.

AAAAAGH

YOU REALLY WANT TO KNOW?

ACK!

IMA-MURA!

WHOA.

YOU'RE USE-LESS.

I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU!

SO, I FELL OUT THE WINDOW RIGHT AFTER YOU DID, AND NEXT THING I KNEW, HERE I WAS.

AAAA

AA

HEH HEH HEH

I AM.

HEH HEH HEH

WAIT, IF YOU FELL RIGHT AFTER I DID, HAVE YOU BEEN HIDING IT SINCE BEFORE THE PRACTICE GAME?

ARE YOU PLANN-ING SOME-THING ?

MY HEAD IS CRAMMED FULL OF INFO THAT I *MEMORIZED* FOR WHEN I *GOT MY OWN* DO-OVER.

LIS-TEN, IMA-MURA.

UGH!

G-GUUH ...

THE OUENDAN ISN'T WHERE YOU BELONG.

THIS IS OUR CHANCE TO DO THINGS OVER AGAIN.

LET'S TAKE THIS BORING WORLD AND LEAVE OUR MARK ON IT.

LET'S BLOW IT ALL UP!

BOOM

DRAMATIC REENACTMENT

GOD, HIRO-KUN!

HEY! THERE YOU ARE!

HOW EX-ACTLY IS KNOWING THE FUTURE SUP-POSED TO HELP US?

UGH, GUH ...

YOU THINK WE CAN START A NUCLEAR WAR OR END THE WORLD JUST 'CAUSE WE'RE DOING THINGS OVER? HUH? COOL YOUR HEAD! YOU'RE STILL JUST SOME HIGH-SCHOOLER.

GET REAL!

OH YEAH.

COULDN'T YOU BE NICER?

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO WANTED TO GO OUT IN THE FIRST PLACE!

AND YOU'VE BEEN ACTING ALL BORED ON OUR DATES!

WHY HAVEN'T YOU REPLIED TO MY TEXT FROM YESTERDAY?

WHAT ?!

LET'S BREAK UP.

YOU TURNED OUT TOO BORING FOR ME.

...

AND WE'VE ONLY BEEN DATING FOR THREE DAYS, YET SHE WANTS THE WHOLE GIRLFRIEND EXPERIENCE. I CAN'T STAND IT.

SHE JUST KEEPS BLABBERING ON AND ON. IT'S WORSE THAN I EXPECTED.

YOU SUCK!

YOU ASSHOLE!

YOU'RE THE WORST!

SHUT UP! ANYONE ELSE WOULD DO THE SAME!

Is this what you mean by "leaving your mark"?

HIRO-KUN.

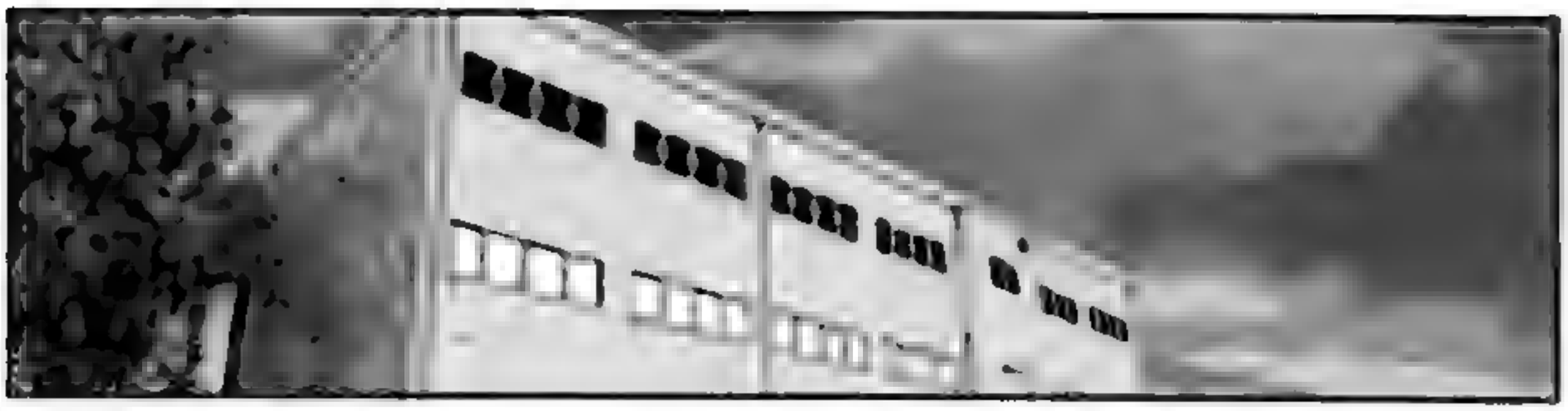
THIS DO-OVER TURNED YOU INTO A REAL *PIECE OF SHIT,* DIDN'T IT?

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO, IMAMURA? I CAN HELP MAKE IT HAPPEN.

A LOT OF MONEY COULD BE NICE.

MONEY, I GUESS?

AWARD
POLE VAULTING
TRACK AND FIELD
AWARD
APPEARED IN UNITED CULTURE FAIR



HEY, WHAT'S THE HEADING HERE?

WHAT THE HELL ?!

THANK YOU FOR COMIN

SIGN: URANIA HORSE RACES

I MEAN, WE'RE HIGH-SCHOOLERS. ARE WE EVEN *ALLOWED* TO BET ON HORSES?

BESIDES, HAVE YOU REALLY MEMO-RIZED THE RESULTS OF EVERY RACE?

CLANG

CLANG

DAMN IT! I GUESS THEY DON'T START THAT UNTIL NEXT YEAR.

THERE'S SUPPOSED TO BE A PLACE FOR OFF-TRACK BETTING HERE.

WELL, THERE'S STOCK TRA-DING.

YEAH, 'CAUSE WE HAVE ALL THAT MONEY TO INVEST.

...

EVEN FOR BETTING ON SOCCER GAMES?

I'M PRETTY SURE MINORS USUALLY AR-EN'T ALLOWED TO BUY THOSE. LIKE, WE'D NEED OUR PARENTS' PERMISSION OR SOMETHING?

LET'S BUY LOTTERY TICKETS! I TOOK A LOOK AT THE WINNING NUMBERS!

OU FOR COMING

WE'RE GONNA HOLD ANOTHER STRATEGY MEETING ON OUR PLANS FOR THIS DO-OVER TOMORROW. COME PREPARED!

IT'S THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT! WHERE WERE YOU?

HEY! KIN-CHAN!

WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME YOU'D BE HOME LATE?!

WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF WE WERE RICH?

MOM.

JUST KIDDING.

OH.

ATSUKO MAEDA. HUH? SHE'LL RETIRE NEXT YEAR

NO WAY!

JUST KIDD-ING

KIN-CHAN! I DID NOT RAISE YOU TO BE A CRIMINAL!

WHAM

USING THIS DO-OVER FOR MY OWN BENEFIT, HUH?

I HADN'T THOUGHT OF THAT.

HE AND I MAY AS WELL HAVE BEEN FROM DIFFERENT WORLDS.

HE WAS SOME LOUD, ANNOYING GUY, ALWAYS YUKKING IT UP WITH HIS CARBON-COPY BUDDIES FROM OUR WEAK-ASS SOCCER TEAM, LIKE THEY WERE MAKING FUN OF SOMEBODY.

WHAT WAS MY IMPRESSION OF "HIRO-KUN" BEFORE I JUMPED BACK IN TIME?

68. DEVILISHLY CHARMING

I DID SOME THINKING LAST NIGHT, AND I'M PRETTY SURE I'VE GOT IT.

WE SHOULD START A BAND.

DING

DOONG

NO.

PAANG...

WHAM

IT'S NOT AS SIMPLE AS JUST TRYING TO BE THE BEATLES BEFORE THE BEATLES!

WE KNOW WHAT SONGS ARE GOING TO BE HITS, SO WE CAN DO THEM OURSELVES FIRST AND SELL A TON OF CDS.

WHY NOT, THOUGH? WE'D MAKE SO MUCH MONEY!

LIKE, ARE YOU REALLY DUMB ENOUGH TO THINK A SONG BY AKB48 OR SOME BOY BAND LIKE EXILE WOULD SELL JUST AS WELL IF WE SANG IT?

I MEAN, WE COULD STEAL A POPULAR JOKE FROM THE FUTURE, AND NO ONE WOULD THINK IT WAS FUNNY. THE SAME GOES FOR MANGA, ANIME, MOVIES, AND BOOKS. WE MAY KNOW WHAT'S COMING, BUT WE CAN'T RECREATE IT, SO JUST GIVE UP ON THE ARTS ALREADY.

BAM

DAMN IT! AND IT'LL BE A WHILE BEFORE ANOTHER SILLY CHILDREN'S SONG MAKES THE CHARTS, LIKE THAT ONE ABOUT THE DUMPLINGS...

OH?

I WANT TO GAMBLE ON A BASEBALL GAME OR SOMETHING!

AAAGH! IS THERE REALLY NO WAY TO MAKE SOME EASY MONEY?

MMMMGH...

GAAAH! SORRY!

WHAT ARE YOU PLANNING? YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE IN CLASS!

FUNNY, I DON'T RE-MEMBER THOSE TWO BEING FRIENDS.

SHOOOO

IMA-MURA ?!

ｶﾁ" JOLT ｲﾎﾟ"

SCREW SCHOOL!

EH!!

HA-HAAA!!

Usami-san! Pay attention to class!

HE'S STARTED DOWN THE WRONG PATH...

HE STOPS ATTENDING SCHOOL.

THE COPS GET INVOLVED.

HE BREAKS A BUNCH OF THE SCHOOL'S WINDOWS.

THE OUENDAN IS DONE FOR.

FU GUURK!

WHAT THE HELL HAS GOTTEN INTO YOU, IMAMURA?

ARE YOU ASKING TO GO FURTHER WITH ME?

IF WE WANT TO LEAVE THE DO-OVER WORLD AND GET BACK TO OUR OLD ONE,

ANOTHER SHOCK TO THE HEAD SHOULD BE ENOUGH TO DO IT, RIGHT? HMM...

I MEAN, I DON'T KNOW IF THIS IS A PARALLEL UNIVERSE OR A DREAM OR WHAT, BUT...

LIFE HERE IS LIKE A VIDEO GAME!

AH HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA!

FWISH

WHO CARES WHAT MIGHT GO WRONG WHEN WE HAVE AN EASY OUT LIKE THAT?!

I'M DOWN FOR ANYTHING, AS LONG AS IT'S FUN.

OH YEAH?

I'M NOT DOING ANYTHING ILLEGAL.

YOU'RE SCARING ME.

Hell, I've never even skipped school before.

SO, I MEAN, WHAT'S YOUR GRIPE, ANYWAY?

YOU'RE NOT LIKE ME. YOU HAD A GOOD TIME IN HIGH SCHOOL, RIGHT?

BUT...

BUT I WANTED TO DO SOMETHING UNIQUE, SOMETHING NOBODY ELSE WAS CAPABLE OF!

I ALWAYS HAVE!

THAT WAS HIGH SCHOOL FOR ME: DOING THE SAME THING AS EVERYBODY ELSE.

I WENT TO SCHOOL LIKE EVERYBODY ELSE, DID MY HOMEWORK LIKE EVERYBODY ELSE, JOINED A CLUB LIKE EVERYBODY ELSE...

woof

woof

SORRY, CAN'T RELATE.

WOW, EVEN PEOPLE WITH LIVES HAVE THEIR PROBLEMS, HUH?

Whoa! I'm so sorry!

WAT, YOU HAVE ?!

UGH!

WAG WAG WAG

HAVE YOU EVER HAD SEX?

IMAMURA ...

JUMP

NO ...

...

SO, WHICH ONE ARE YOU GONNA SCREW FIRST?

I'VE GOTTA HAND IT TO YOU. THAT'S AWESOME! YOU'RE REALLY MAKING THE MOST OF THIS DO-OVER, HUH?

HA-HAAA!

LICK LICK LICK LICK LICK LICK

THEN HAVE YOU EVER KISSED SOME-ONE?

YOU'VE ALREADY KISSED BOTH THE CAPTAIN *AND* SHIBATA?!

WHOA!

WHOA?

They're virgins, right? You've gotta do 'em!

ANYWAY, I DON'T GET WHAT FUJIEDA SEES IN YOU.

JUST, I'M NOT USED TO THIS KIND OF LOCKER-ROOM TALK. I CAN'T THINK STRAIGHT...

NOTH-ING.

Hey. Hey

WHY DO YOU LOOK SO HORRI-FIED?

SHE SURE ACTS LIKE YOUR GIRL-FRIEND.

YOU SAID YOU WEREN'T HER BOYFRIEND, RIGHT? WHAT DID YOU MEAN BY THAT?

I AM NOT AKI'S BOY-FRIEND.

AFTER ALL, SHE WAS COOL AND PEPPY AND SILLY, AND HER FACE WASN'T HALF-BAD EITHER.

FUJIEDA AND I WERE ASSIGNED TO THE SAME CLASS IN OUR SECOND YEAR. WE'D TALK PRETTY OFTEN, AND I CAME TO CONSIDER HER A FRIEND.

SO, I LIKED HER WELL ENOUGH.

BWAHAHA...

THEN ONE DAY, THE TWO OF US WERE CLOWNING AROUND ABOUT SOME-THING, AND...

I NEVER SAW HER AS GIRL-FRIEND MATERIAL.

BUT I'VE HAD A THING FOR OLDER WOMEN EVER SINCE THIS ONE GIRLFRIEND OF MINE, SO SHE DIDN'T QUITE DO IT FOR ME.

THAT'S WHAT I LOVE ABOUT YOU.

HAAAAA I'm dying!

DAMN, FUJI-EDA.

FROM THEN UNTIL WE GRADUATED, EVERYONE SAW ME AS HER BOYFRIEND.

God, you guys don't have to tell everyone! It's embarrassing!

Huh?!

Huh?!

You two make a good match.

We heard the news!

THE NEXT DAY, I WENT TO SCHOOL TO FIND THAT OUR WHOLE CLASS SAW US AS A COUPLE NOW.

KICK KICK KICK

AAAGH!

I SHOULD'VE JUST BROKEN UP WITH HER WHILE I HAD THE CHANCE.

...

SO, BUSY AS I WAS WITH THE SOCCER CLUB AND MY SCHOOL WORK, I GOT STUCK PRETENDING TO BE HER BOYFRIEND.

AND BECAUSE OF THAT, ALL THE GIRLS CONSIDERED ME OFF-LIMITS.

FWISH

BUT HERE I AM DOING THINGS OVER, AND THIS TIME, I'M GOING TO HAVE SOME FUN WITH A WOMAN MORE TO MY LIKING!

YOU BETTER NOT LET FUJIEDA CATCH WIND OF THAT.

WHEN YOU'RE SO STRAIT-LACED YOU CAN'T STEP OUTSIDE YOUR COMFORT ZONE,

YOU'RE EVENTUALLY GONNA EXPLODE. I WAS ALWAYS NERVOUS ABOUT THAT.

WHAT? NO YOU WEREN'T.

I THOUGHT YOU WERE PRETTY STRAIT-LACED, BUT I GUESS I WAS WRONG.

YOU KNOW,

6

YOU PROMISED WE'D DO IT WHEN YOU GRADUATED, BABE.

I'M SORRY. I'M JUST NOT READY.

WHAT-EVER. COME ON, REO

OH!

COME TO THINK OF IT, AFTER OUR GRADUATION, SHE WAS ON THE VERGE OF LETTING SOME DOUCHEBAG DRAG HER INTO A LOVE HOTEL.

SEE?

TAKE SHIBATA. SHE'S EXACTLY THE TYPE.

HUH?

THIS IS A DO-OVER, AFTER ALL. YOU SHOULD DO WHAT YOU WANT TO.

NO?

...

COME ON, YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO AS YOU'RE TOLD LIKE A GOOD LITTLE BOY.

...

AND I BET YOU'VE BEEN GETTING BORED OF THE STRAIT-LACED OUENDAN LIFE YOURSELF, HAVEN'T YOU?

...

M-

MIND YOUR OWN BUSI-NESS!

DON'T TELL ME WHAT I WANT!

I'M SICK OF ACTING LIKE WE'RE FRIENDS!

IMA-MURA?!

PEOPLE JUST DECIDE WHAT I WANT AND WHAT TO EXPECT FROM ME WITHOUT EVEN ASKING. NOBODY WONDERS WHAT I MIGHT WANT!

I THINK I'VE FIGURED OUT WHAT'S BEEN BOTHERING ME LATELY.

...QUIT EXPECTING THINGS FROM ME!

JUST...

KNOCK KNOCK

DING DONG

WHAT? NO WAY. I WONDER IF SOMETHING HAPPENED... DOES ANYONE KNOW?

IS HE CUTTING CLASS?

WHERE'D IMAMURA GO? HE LEFT HIS BAG.

OH
MR.
MURA-
KUN

WHAT
IF...

I'LL
GO
LOOK
FOR
HIM

LUMBER

IMA-
MURA-
KUN!

I can't go
to school with
her there!

AM I
SKIPPING
SCHOOL
BECAUSE
OF ME?!

HEY, SHI-BATA.

WE NEED TO TALK.

YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO LOVE ME!

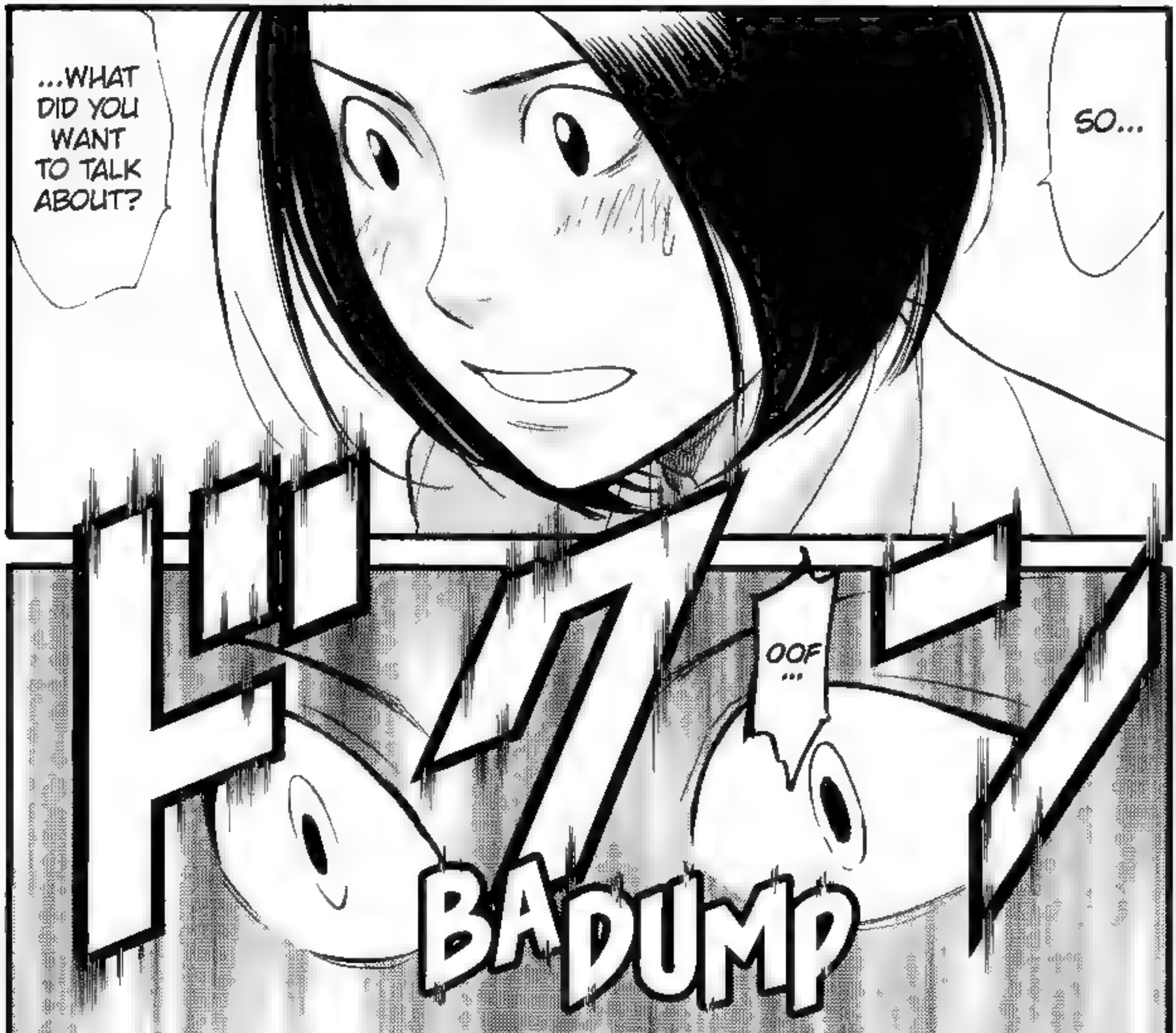
I'VE HAD ONE OF THESE BALLS KILLING ME!

PACE...

PACE

WHERE'S HIRO-KUN?!

69.
CLOTHESLINED


...WHAT DID YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT?
SO...
OOF...
BA-DUMP

ACTUALLY, FORGET ABOUT PICKING UP WHERE WE LEFT OFF.

SQUEE SQUEE SQUEE

READY TO PICK UP WHERE WE LEFT OFF?

GET YOUR MIND OUT OF THE GUTTER.

NOT AT SCHOOL! YOU'RE EMBARRASSING ME!

Duuuuh

HOLD UP!

OH YEAH. YOU SEE-

SO... WHAT DID YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT?

S-SORRY.

AAAAAGH! MY VISIONS OF THE FUTURE ARE GETTING ALL MIXED UUUUP!

WHAT'S WRONG, SHIBATA?

...

SHE KNOWS...

IS THIS GOOD NEWS?

FIRST ...

OR BAD NEWS?

HMMM. UHHH...

HELL, MAYBE IT'D BE BEST TO MAKE HER HATE ME.

I KNOW I'M JUST GOING TO DISAPPOINT HER, SO WE SHOULD QUIT WHILE WE'RE AHEAD. BUT HOW DO I TELL HER THAT?

I DON'T WANT TO GET HER HOPES UP...

GET REAL, NERD.

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU TOOK THAT KISS SERIOUSLY.

SUICIDE

HOST CLUBS

HEARTBROKEN

DATING SITES

SEX WORK

DEBT

DOESN'T GET INTO COLLEGE

LOVE HO

HOURLY...

NIGHTLY...

IMA-MURA-KUN?

...

WHAT CAN I DO?

HOW DO I MAKE HER GET OVER ME?

I'D LIKE TO AVOID THAT.

I GUESS SHIBATA'S LIFE COULD REALLY GO DOWNHILL BECAUSE OF THIS DO-OVER...

IMA-MURA-KUN...

TAK

KATAK

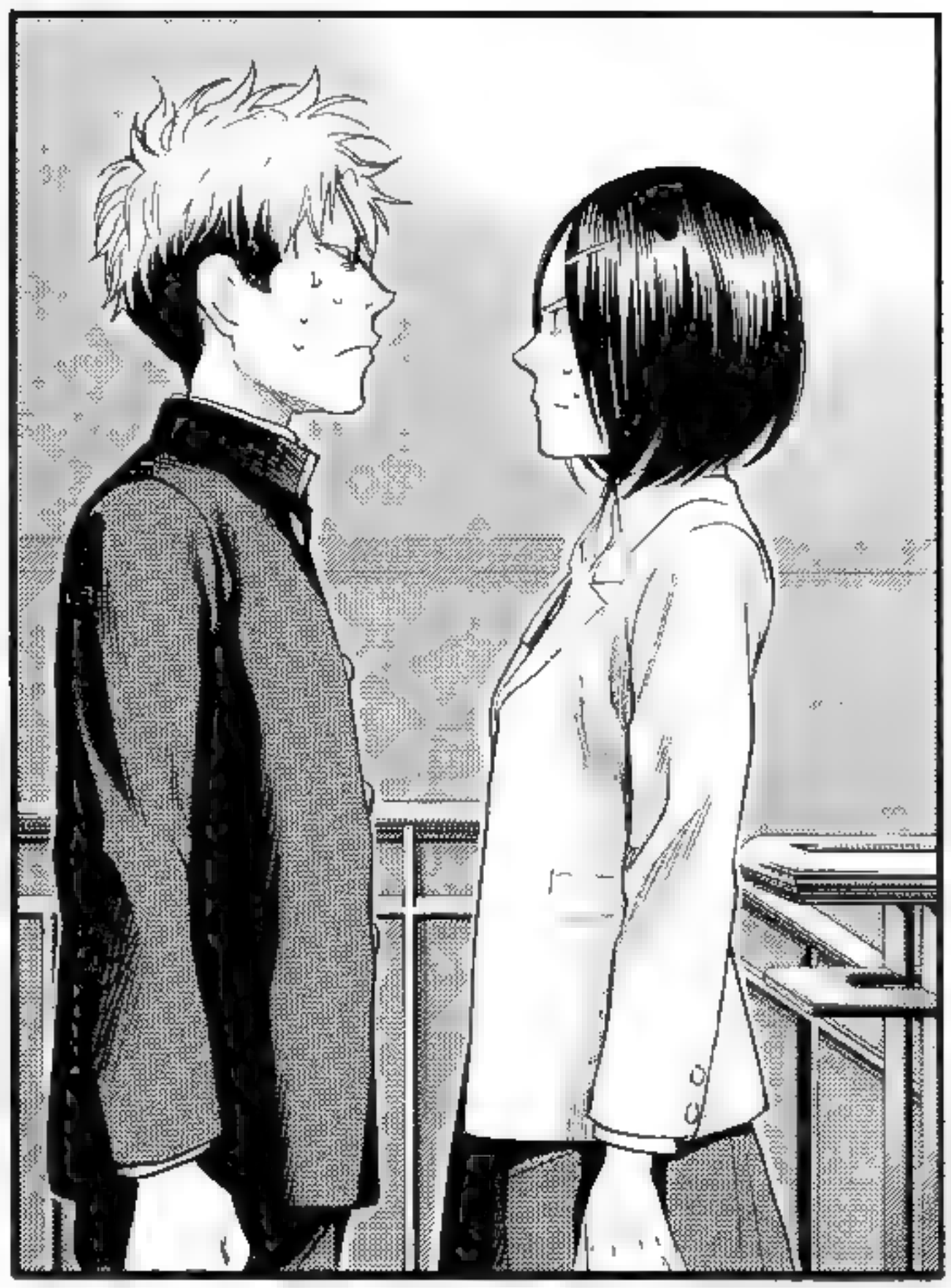
WHAT?

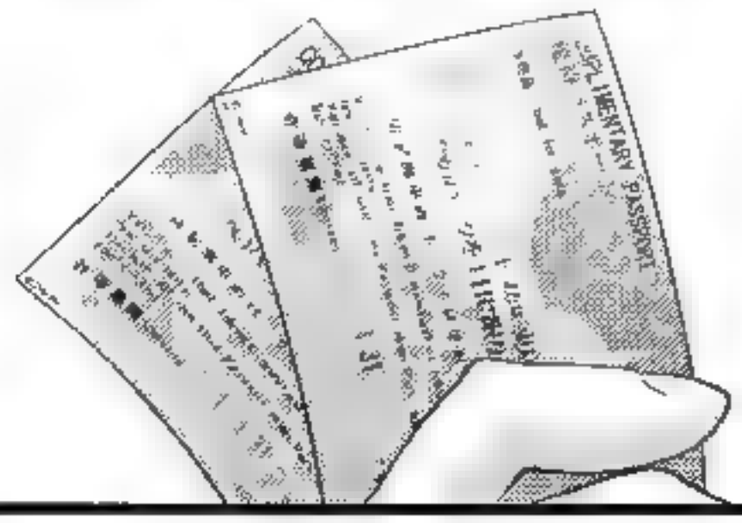
IF YOU'RE NOT INTER-ESTED, JUST SAY SO, OKAY?

IF-

FLINCH

FSSH





...TO DISNEY-LAND?

WANNA COME WITH ME...

OOH AH...

WHA-

AH-

WOBBLE

WOBBLE

?

HFFF...

WHY NOT JUST GO WITH A FRIEND?

?

MY MOM GOT THESE FROM ONE OF HER CO-WORKERS. IT WAS A COINCIDENCE! SHE GAVE THEM TO ME, AND THERE ARE ONLY TWO, SO I FIGURED, YOU KNOW... MIGHT AS WELL...

HUH?

I WANT TO GO ...

...WITH YOU.

RIGHT.

OH-HH-HH.

OH.

I MEAN, ONLY IF YOU WANT TO.

WHAAAT?!

LET'S GO RIGHT NOW.

IT'D BE TOO CROWDED IF WE WENT ON THE WEEK-END.

HUH?!

HURK

LET'S GO, THEN.

CARS

A-ARE YOU SURE THE POLICE WON'T BOTHER US IF WE GO IN OUR UNIFORMS?

EH.

DON'T ACT SO NERVOUS.

I BET THERE ARE PLENTY OF STUDENTS OUT ON FIELD TRIPS.

IMAMURA! WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO YOU?

BADUMP BADUMP BADUMP BADUMP

WHY'S HE SO ASSERTIVE ALL OF A SUDDEN?

WHOA, WHOA, WHOA, WHAT ?!

...YOU'RE TAKING ME ON THE FIRST DATE OF MY ENTIRE LIFE!

TOOT

I MEAN ...

ガタン
RAAATTLE

ガタタタ
RAAATTLE

ガタン
RATTLE

ガタン
RATTLE

ガタン
RATTLE

HOW MANY TRANSFERS DO WE HAVE TO MAKE, AGAIN?

THIS IS TAKING A WHILE.

HE SEEMS MOODY, BUT WHY?!

IMA-MURA-KUN ...

DOES HE NOT ACTUALLY WANT TO GO? OH, GOD...

カタ RATTLE

I-I CAN PAY YOUR FARE.

THREE TRANSFERS. THE TRIP THERE WILL TAKE AN HOUR AND FORTY MINUTES AND COST 1,100 YEN.

S-S-S-SORRY!

DON'T SWEAT IT.

BUT TODAY, I'M MAKING IT MY JOB TO ACT MOODY AND COMPLETELY UNINTERESTED IN DISNEYLAND!

SORRY, SHIBATA.

I DON'T THINK I LIKE YOU, IMAMURA.

THIS WASN'T REALLY WHAT I EXPECT-ED.

THAT WAY, SHIBATA SHOULD BE OVER HER SILLY CRUSH BY THE TIME WE'RE READY TO LEAVE.

THE CONVERSATION WILL BE SO BORING, AND I CAN GO ON ABOUT THE EVILS OF CONSUMERISM TO REALLY PUT HER OFF.

I'LL COMPLAIN ABOUT THE LONG LINES AND THE EXPENSIVE FOOD, STUFF LIKE THAT.

HURRRA

HURK

FART

FART

FART

FINISH!!

HNNNGH

HEH HEH...

I'M REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO THIS.

4 GLANCE

SHOOOOOO

THINK EVIL THOUGHTS.

NO NO NO!

I'VE GOT TO MAKE HER HATE ME!

ーランド・パーク
Tokyo Disneyland Park

CHATTER

CHATTER

DAMN, IT'S RAINING CATS AND DOGS.

ZZZ

OH, DON'T GO OUT OF YOUR WAY FOR ME.

I'M SORRY. LET'S GO HOME. I'LL PAY FOR YOUR FARE FOR THE TRAIN.

SORRY FOR THE TROUBLE.

I'M JUST MAKING YOU TAG ALONG WITH ME, AND IT'S NOT LIKE WE'LL EVEN HAVE ANY FUN IN ALL THIS RAIN.

IT'S FINE, IMAMURA-KUN. I CAN TELL YOU AREN'T INTER-ESTED.

COME ON, WE CAN JUST BUY AN UM-BRELLA.

SHI-BATA!

BESIDES, THE LINES WILL BE SHORTER IF IT'S RAINING.

SHAKE

SHAKE

MM...

MM...

BLINK

DAMN IT... WHAT CAN I DO?

LIL-LINH...

LINH...

SWUH!

IN THAT CASE, LET'S GO SOME-WHERE I WANT TO GO.

WHERE DO YOU MEAN?

HUH ...?

I WON-DER IF THERE'S ONE NEARBY.

OH, YEAH! THERE'S ONE IN SHIN-KIBA.

YOU MUST BE HUNGRY, RIGHT?

THIS WAY.

YOU THINK YOU'RE TROUBLE?

I'LL SHOW YOU TROUBLE!

WHAT DO YOU WANT, SHI-BATA?

CAN I GET A SHRIMP AND AVO-CADO SUB?

ON A SESAME BUN.

TOAST-ED, PLEASE.

GIVE ME EXTRA VEGGIES, EXCEPT FOR LETTUCE.

AND HOW ABOUT SOME CHILI PEPPERS.

ONE MORE OF THE SAME, THEN.

I'LL JUST HAVE WHAT YOU'RE HAVING.

OH, UH... I DON'T REALLY KNOW HOW TO ORDER HERE.

WITH EXTRA OLIVES, PLEASE.

BLING

GASP

YOU MADE YOUR ORDER LIKE IT WAS NO BIG DEAL.

YOU'RE AMAZING, IMAMURA-KUN.

WE'D ONLY DO THAT ONCE IN A WHILE, THOUGH.

MY DAD WOULD TAKE ME. HE'S THE ONE WHO TAUGHT ME HOW TO ORDER.

YEAH, I CAME HERE A LOT WHEN I LIVED IN TOKYO.

WHAT HAPPENED TO MAKING HER HATE ME? I'VE GOTTEN TOO COMFORT-ABLE.

カラン CLATTER

...

NO NEED TO APOLO-GIZE.

カラン CLATTER

OH ...

SORRY ...

I WOULDN'T SAY THAT. HE'S NOT IN THE PICTURE ANYMORE.

WOW, WHAT A GREAT DAD!

SO WHEN SHOULD WE...

...DO THAT THING?

JUST LET ME KNOW WHEN YOU'RE READY, OKAY?

IMA-MURA-KUN,

I WON'T ASK AGAIN.

UHH...

OH...

RIGHT.

かああ BLUSH

...AND THAT WOULD BE THE END OF IT.

I THOUGHT WE WERE JUST GOING TO LET EACH OTHER KNOW HOW WE FELT...

...

O... KAY.

BUT SURPRISINGLY...

...I CAN'T HELP BUT ENJOY MYSELF.

WHAT?

I FORGET.

NO WAY!

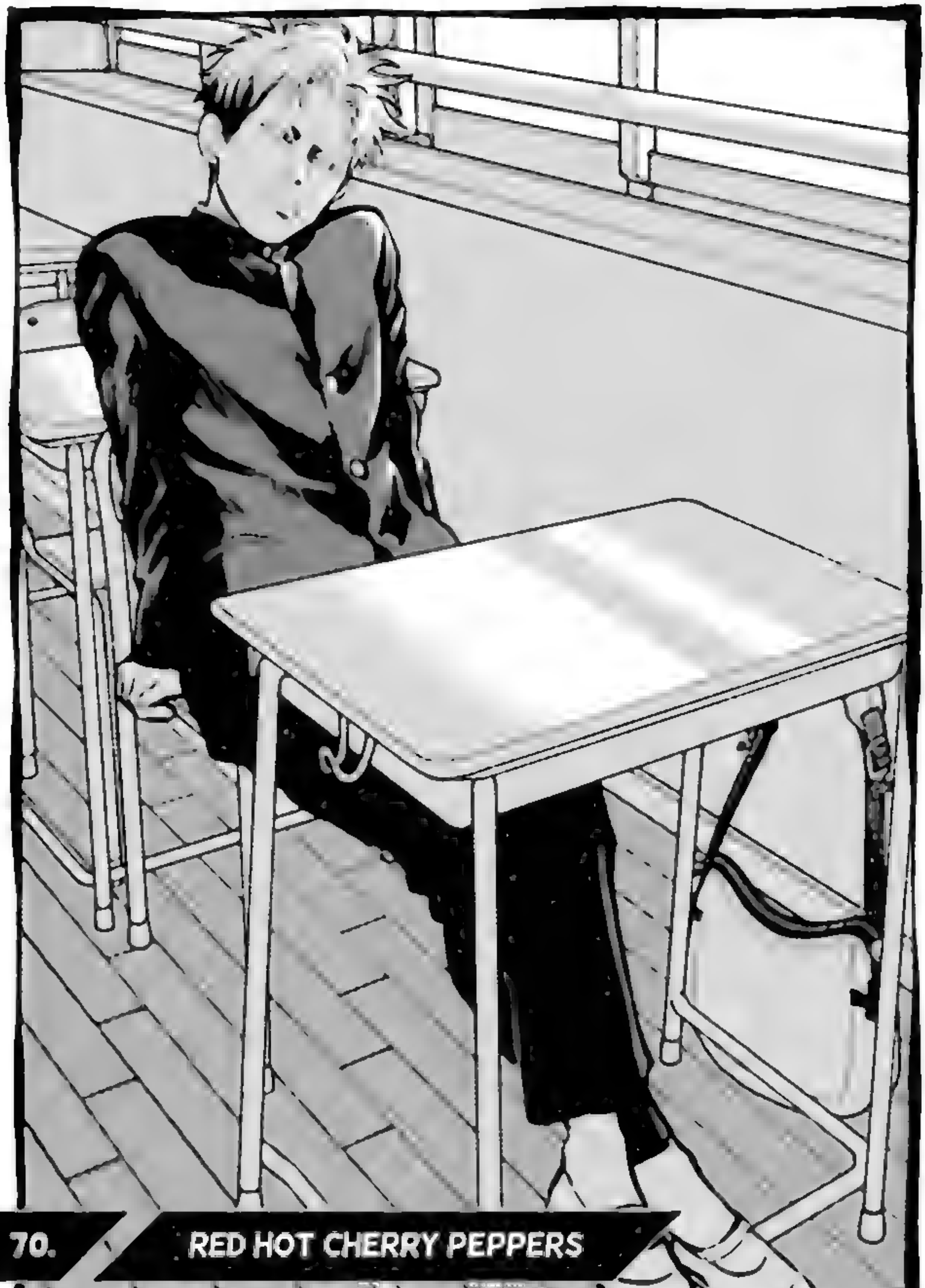
LETTING THIS GO 'A LITTLE LONGER MIGHT NOT BE SO BAD.

WHAT WAS IT YOU WANTED TO TALK ABOUT EARLIER, IMAMURA-KUN?

OH, AND BY THE WAY,

THAT.

OHHH...



70. RED HOT CHERRY PEPPERS

Doo
Doo
Doo

HOW DO I GET HIM TO HELP ME?

...

WHAT TO DO...

SHOOOO...

HOLD IT RIGHT THERE, PRETTY BOY!

HEY!

BAM

?!

FLINCH

KUROKOKU SERREEBE

I'LL FUCKIN' KILL YOU!

IT'S DANGEROUS TO TALK ON THE PHONE WHILE RIDING A BIKE.

YOU'RE USING HIM! AREN'T YOU? THAT MUST BE WHY HE'S STARTED SKIPPING PRACTICE!

WHAT? I'M USING HIM?

YOU'RE THAT GUY WHO WAS WITH IMAMURA!

YOU'RE THE OUEN-DAN'S CAP-TAIN.

WAIT ...

HM? YOU ARE ...?

OF COURSE, I'M SURE YOU GOT IT IN YOUR HEAD THAT HE'D CARRY ON THE OUENDAN YOU'VE WORKED SO HARD TO PRESERVE.

DON'T YOU REAL-IZE?

HE'S JUST GETTING SICK OF YOU.

HE'S AL-READY LOSING IN-TEREST.

キュラキュラ…
WHIRRR

IMAMURA'S PERFECTLY HAPPY FOR THE OUENDAN TO GO ON WITHOUT HIM.

THE THING IS,

YOU'VE TRICKED HIM! THAT'S IT! IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT!

IMA-MURA'S-

DON'T LIE TO ME!

MY BOND WITH IMAMURA HAS BEEN FORGED IN THE FIRES OF THE OUENDAN!

OH!

...

HUH? WHAT ARE YOU TWO DOING TOGETHER?

YES, MA'AM!

FLINCH

IMA-MURA!

HELL NO WE'RE NOT DATING!

NO NO NO!

ARE YOU DATING?

WAVE WAVE

CARE TO EX-PLAIN?

YOU NEVER SHOWED UP TO PRACTICE YESTER-DAY.

RUMBLE RUMBLE

JUST LET ME DO MY THING!

WH-

WHAT'S IT TO YOU?!

I SEE ...

WHAT HAP-PENED?

THAT'S ALL HE'S GOT TO SAY?

...

WAIT!

IMA-MURA-KUN!

MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE, HE WANTED TO USE THIS DO-OVER TO LOSE HIS VIRGINITY!

THAT MUST BE WHY HE CHOSE SUCH A PLAIN JANE!

IT ALL MAKES SO MUCH SENSE NOW!

AT THE END OF THE DAY, ALL HE WANTS IS SEX!

HE'S LIKE ANY OTHER BOY HIS AGE.

DAZ DUN

NO...

SHUF

AND THEN, YOU CAN HELP ME WITH MY DO-OVER IN RETURN.

JUST LEAVE IT TO ME.

HEH HEH HEH... I CAN HELP YOU WITH THAT.

DUUN

DUUN

DUUN

ALL YOU WANTED WAS TO GO FURTHER WITH ME, IMAMURA?!

...ALL THE OUENDAN WAS TO YOU?

WAS THAT...

WHAT GIVES?

EVERY-ONE'S GIVING ME FUNNY LOOKS.

SMIRK

SMIRK

OH...

SEE YOU LATER, THEN.

CLING

TO

DOONG

I'VE GOTTA GO TO THE BATH-ROOM.

SMIRK

HEY, IMA-MURA-KUN.

EX-CUSE ME?

IS IT TRUE YOU HAVE A GIRLFRIEND NOW?

HE LEFT SCHOOL WITH A GIRL FROM HIS CLASS TO GO ON A DATE!

YOU HAVEN'T HEARD?

WHAT ?!

I HEARD IMAMURA CAME TO SCHOOL WITH HIS GIRLFRIEND TODAY!

OH MY GOD !

DID YOU SEE IT? THE RUMORS WERE TRUE!

WAAA

UGH!

SHE'S SO UGLY.

WHISPER

WHISPER

You're so mean!

CUT THAT OUT!

Ah ha ha ha ha!

WHAAAT?

Who cares?

I thought he was with the ouendan's captain

IS SHE REALLY IMAMURA'S GIRL-FRIEND?

I DIDN'T EXPECT PEOPLE TO TALK ABOUT ME LIKE THIS.

FIGURES, THOUGH, I GUESS.

HUH...

CHATTER CHATTER

REALLY?

IS SHIBATA-SAN *THAT* KIND OF GIRL?

WHERE'D IMAMURA AND SHIBATA GO, ANYWAY?

THERE WERE WIT-NESS-ES!

NO WAY!

NOTHING HAPPEN-ED!

I'M TELLING YOU!

So let's stop talking about this! Okay? Okay.

I'M REALLY SORRY, BUT I DON'T WANT TO CAUSE PROBLEMS FOR IMAMURA-KUN, YOU KNOW?

COME ON! JUST GO OUT WITH HIM!

SOUNDS FISHY.

HE'S GETTING IT ON WITH THE CAPTAIN!

THEY DID THIS TO ME AND THE CAPTAIN, TOO. DON'T THEY EVER SHUT UP?

WHISPER WHISPER WHISPER

LIS-TEN TO ME!

HMM...

BUT...

SHI-BATA...

I DIDN'T CARE HOW MUCH OF A FUSS THEY MADE THEN, SINCE IT WASN'T LIKE THE CAPTAIN LIKED ME, ANYWAY.

HMM?

HUH?

OH!

CLING

DOOONG

PAAAN

GET READY!

ONE, TWO, THREE!

WAIT.

I DON'T RECOGNIZE THAT GUY.

OH, HEY.

THE OUENDAN'S PRACTIC-ING.

SHUMP

ｶﾗﾝ..!

USE YOUR LOWER BACK.

YOU GOT THIS! DON'T GIVE UP YET!

LIKE THAT.

O-

OSU!

A NEW GUY, HUH?

YEAH!

JUST LIKE THAT.

FWISH

QUENDAN!!

GRRR...

BUT...

HMPH

WAAAAAA

...THAT WANTS TO STAY IN THE QUENDAN.

THERE IS A PART OF ME...

I MIGHT GO BACK TO MY OLD WORLD.

SOMEDAY...

MAYBE I SHOULD LET THE OUENDAN GO ON WITHOUT ME.

SO...

MAYBE I SHOULDN'T LET MYSELF GET TOO CAUGHT UP IN THIS DO-OVER.

NO.

AND NOT JUST THE OUENDAN...

WOBBLE

SHIBATA, TOO.

I PROBABLY SHOULDN'T TAKE THINGS ANY FURTHER WITH HER.

EEP!

BUMP

WERE N'T YOU GOING TO SAY HI TO IMAMURA ?

WHAT'S THE MATTER ?

HEY, SHI- BATA.

WHAT? NO...

HE LIKES THE CAPTAIN OF THE OUENDAN.

DON'T YOU KNOW THAT?

HE SEEMS SO SAD, WATCHING THE OUENDAN PRACTICE.

WELL, DUH...

JUST LOOK AT HIM.

...

SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO RUB IT IN!

I KNOW I'M NOT THE ONE HE WANTS!

I CAN BE A CHEER-LEADER FOR YOUR LOVE.

WELL THEN, LET ME HELP.

HUH ...?

WE'RE SUPPOSED TO GO OUT WITH EACH OTHER, HIRO-KUN. REMEMBER?

SURITCH SURITCH SURITCH SURITCH

WHAT MAKES YOU THINK YOU CAN FLIRT WITH HER?

It's not like they're close... are they?

71. THE ABC'S OF EROS

AND...

AND LET'S SEE... THIS ONE.

THIS ...

Dual's Rokkutei

5 F

INTERNET DVD

MANGA CAFÉ

VIDEO

SHUMP

SHUMP

JUST LIKE YOU ASKED.

HERE YOU GO.

SHUMP

SHUMP

A KISS THAT CHANGES THE WORLD.

GETTING EXCITED JUST BY HOLDING HANDS.

I'VE BEEN WONDERING..

I LOVE HIM

FWIP

FWIP

DIFFICULTY EXPRESSING YOUR AFFECTION.

FATE.

SO THIS IS THE KIND OF MANGA YOU LIKE.

I SEE...

YOUR INNOCENT ACT WON'T WORK ON ME! I KNOW DAMN WELL THAT SMART PEOPLE ONLY EVER THINK ABOUT SEX!

QUIT SCREW-ING AROUND!

TWISH

YOU'VE GOTTA BE READING DIRTIER STUFF THAN THIS!

I- I'M SORRY.

YOU SHOULD'VE JUST OWNED UP TO READING THIS STUFF IN THE FIRST PLACE.

GOD.

W- WAIT ...!

NICE.

UHUNH ...

UNH ...

I WANNA GIVE YOU ADVICE AND SEE HOW YOUR LIFE CHANGES.

I GUESS IT JUST SEEMS FUN?

HMM...

I GUESS GIRLS ARE JUST AS PERVERTED AS GUYS, HUH? *HEH HEH HEH...*

BAH HA HA ... THIS IS SO DIRTY.

WHY DO YOU WANT TO BE MY CHEER-LEADER?

NAKA-HARA-KUN,

WHAT IS IT YOU WANT?

OR WOULD YOU RATHER LEAVE HIGH SCHOOL AS AN UNFULFILLED, UNATTRACTIVE VIRGIN?

IF YOU WANT, YOU CAN HAVE A LIFE WHERE YOU AND IMAMURA-KUN DO STUFF JUST AS DIRTY AS WHAT'S IN THIS MANGA.

STRAWBERRY STATEMENT

YOU MAY NOT BE MUCH TO LOOK AT, BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN HE'D REFUSE YOUR HELP LOSING HIS VIRGINITY!

MEN ARE SIMPLE CREATURES.

B-BUT, IMAMURA-KUN DOESN'T EVEN LIKE ME.

NOT AN ISSUE!

TUMP

HUH ?!

FIRST, YOU NEED TO READ ALL 57 VOLUMES OF *KOSAKU SHIMA*!

NOW!

GRUMBLE GRUMBLE GRUMBLE

YOU DON'T HAVE TO PUT IT LIKE THAT...

UH, AH ...

R-RIGHT.

YOU'RE SMART, SO I KNOW YOU CAN DO IT.

JUST DO AS I SAY, AND YOU'LL UNDERGO A REVOLUTIONARY CHANGE IN PERSPECTIVE.

LIS-TEN.

DIVISION CHIEF KOSAKU SHIMA

STRAWBERRY STATEMENT

0 MINUTES
300 YEN
VRRRR
!!

ARE'N'T YOU WORRIED ABOUT HURTING ME?
GRUMBLE GRUMBLE
HOW MUCH TIME DO YOU INTEND TO SPEND TOGETHER?
HIRO-KUN ...
GRUMBLE GRUMBLE

GA FE
REO-CHAN!
HIRO-KUN!
GAH!
WHOA!
IT GOT DARK OUT!
GASP

HOW COULD YOU DO THIS TO ME?

IT'S NOT LIKE YOU DON'T KNOW HOW I FEEL ABOUT HIM!

AND COME ON, REO-CHAN! HOW MEAN CAN YOU GET?

WE WEREN'T DOING ANY-THING!

LIAR!

WHAT WERE YOU TWO DOING ALONE TOGETHER IN A MANGA CAFE THIS LATE AT NIGHT?!

NO ONE EVER TOLD ME.

IF I'M NOT SUPPOSED TO SPEND TIME WITH NAKAHARA-KUN BECAUSE YOU LIKE HIM,

COME AGAIN?

WHISPER

NO ONE EVER TOLD ME.

DON'T YOU THINK IT'S A LITTLE PRESUMPTUOUS OF YOU TO JUST ASSUME THAT HE AND I WILL ALWAYS UNDERSTAND HOW YOU FEEL?

R-REO-CHAN?

HUH? WAIT, HOLD ON...

IT'S STARTING TO SEEM SORT OF LIKE YOU'RE STALKING-NAKAHARA-KUN.

IN FACT, AKI-CHAN,

DOESN'T IT SEEM SAD TO RESTRICT YOURSELF TO THE WHOLE "BOYFRIEND-GIRLFRIEND" THING?

YOU SHOULDN'T PUT LIMITS ON LOVE.

ドキ

BLING!

MY OLD WORRIES ALL SEEM SO FOOLISH NOW.

IT'S ALL THANKS TO YOU, NAKAHARA-KUN.

YOU'RE SUCH A FAST LEARNER. YOU REALLY ARE THE SMARTEST AT OUR SCHOOL.

GOOD.

SPARKLE

SPARKLE

SPARKLE

SPARKLE

SPARKLE

イキ JOY

イキ JOY

"LISTEN, SHIBATA. YOU WON'T GET ANYWHERE BY WAITING FOR IMAMURA TO MAKE A MOVE."

4 2 = CHIRP

4 CHIRP

WHY'D YOU WANT TO MEET HERE FIRST THING IN THE MORNING?

OKAY, SHIBATA. WHAT DO YOU WANT?

"THE ONLY WAY YOU CAN CHANGE HOW HE FEELS IS THROUGH YOUR OWN ACTIONS."

WH-WHAT?

HIRO-KUN! WHAT DID YOU DO TO REO-CHAN?

HEY, GOOD IDEA.

AHHH! I'D LIKE TO STUDY IN THE USA SO I CAN GET BETTER AT THINKING GLOBAL.

IT SEEMS LIKE LIVING ABROAD WOULD PROBABLY HELP YOU HONE YOUR NATURAL TALENTS.

THANKS!☆

HEH HEH!

IMA-MURA-KUN,

COME AND KISS ME.

I WANT YOU TO KISS ME RIGHT HERE,

RIGHT NOW.

SQUEEE

DID YOU HEAR ME?

PRESSSS

WHATCHA LISTEN-ING TO?

HEY, IMA-MURA-KUN!

CHATTER CHATTER...

OH!

THERE'S THE BELL.

FWOOO-

HOW ABOUT A ROOFTOP PICNIC, JUST THE TWO OF US?

LET'S EAT, IMA-MURA-KUN!

I MADE US A CUTE LUNCH!

BAM!!!

STARE

...

FWOOO

GOTTA CRAP!

YEAH, GOOD IDEA!

LET'S HAVE LUNCH WITH EVERYONE ELSE, INSTEAD.

THAT'S RIGHT, SHIBATA. THINK GLOBAL!

HEH HEH HEH ...

YOU'RE MAKING THINGS AWKWARD FOR EVERY-ONE.

WHERE THE HELL IS THIS COMING FROM, SHIBATA ?!

YOU REMIND ME OF THE WOMEN IN KOSAKU SHIMA. NOW THEY KNOW HOW TO THINK GLOBAL!

YOU'VE GOTTA BE ASSERTIVE! DON'T LET ANYTHING STOP YOU!

GLOOC

OBAL!!!

HUH ?!

SO...

WANNA HOLD HANDS?

DI-ING

DONG

DANG

HEY, IMA-MURA-KUN.

WHAT?

AGH!

SQUEEZE

キュ

NO ONE'S LOOK-ING.

おしりUP

GLANCE

チラ

OH ..

UH ...

GLANCE

OH, RIGHT ...

SPAAACE...

I BET YOU COULD DO THE SAME IF YOU PUT YOUR MIND TO IT.

Y'KNOW, I'D LIKE TO IMPROVE MY ENGLISH.

I'M THINKING ABOUT GOING TO COLLEGE IN AMERICA.

THAT VOICE ...

HEY ...

OSU!!

DUM

DADUM

PEOPLE CAN GET THE WRONG IDEA ABOUT A GUY LIKE YOU HERE IN JAPAN, BUT I THINK YOU'D DO REALLY WELL OVERSEAS.

I SHOULD KNOW.

OSU!!

DADUM

YOU CAN DO IT! YOU CAN DO IT! OSU!! OSU!!

?!

SQUEEZE!?

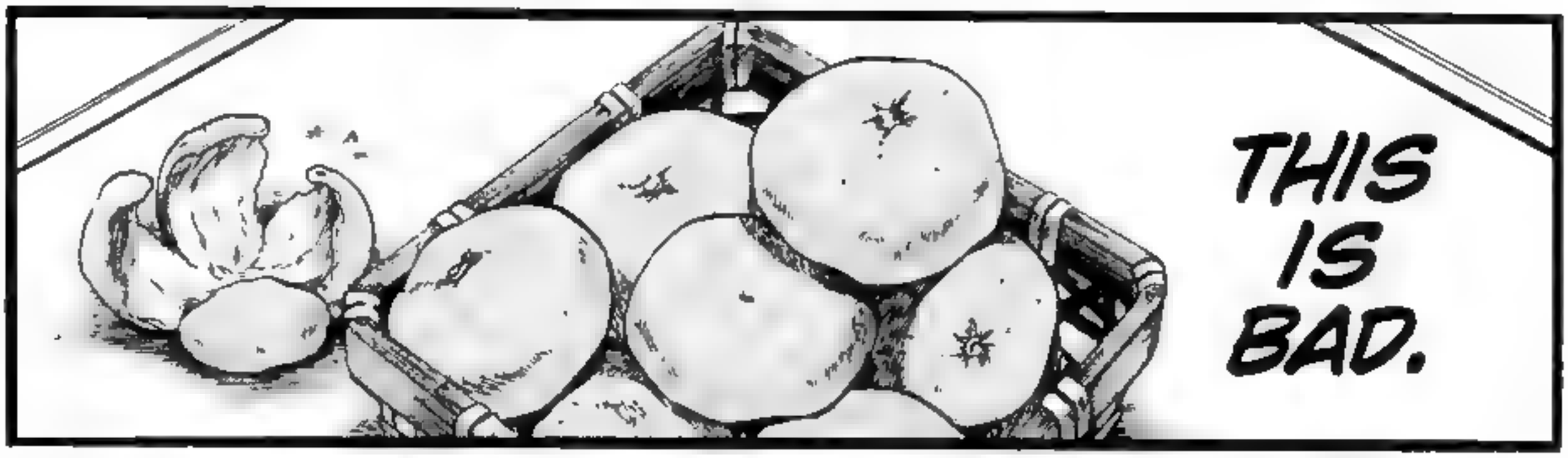
ACTUALLY, I HAVE TO LOOK AFTER MY GRANDMA. MY MOM WON'T BE HOME UNTIL LATE TONIGHT.

OH, UH ...

HEY!

LET'S GO STRAIGHT TO MY HOUSE AND PICK UP WHERE WE LEFT OFF THE OTHER DAY!

ALL RIGHT!


THIS IS BAD.

...
...
...
AND IT'S GONNA GET WORSE IF I END UP ALONE WITH SHIBATA!

He hasn't even married Kumiko Omachi yet!
GAH! I CAN'T READ THE REST OF KOSAKU SHIMA WHILE I'M THREE YEARS IN THE PAST!

Again!!

アゲイン!!

72. AN AFTER-HALFTIME AFFAIR

THIS IS NOT THE SHIBATA I KNOW.

CHITTER CHITTER CHITTER CHITTER CHITTER CHITTER

WHAT THE HELL HAP-PENED ?!

DON'T TELL ME... DOES SHE WANT TO "PICK UP WHERE WE LEFT OFF" IN MY HOUSE?!

SHE'S OBVIOUSLY LOOKING FOR A CHANCE TO BE ALONE WITH ME.

WHAT HAPPENED TO WAITING UNTIL I WAS READY?!

JUST LET ME KNOW WHEN YOU'RE READY, OKAY?

WA-NI-EA-KUN,

I WON'T ASK AGAIN.

KIN-CHAN! HIS NAME IS "ELDER KOKONOE" NOW.

Has been for ages.

WAAAAAA

HEY, GRANDMA, LET'S TURN ON THE TV! THERE'S A SUMO MATCH GOING, AND I KNOW WHAT A FAN YOU ARE OF THAT CHIYONOFUJI GUY.

I'VE GOT TO FIND A WAY OUT OF THIS...

I GOT THE REMOTE!

HE'S STILL IN!

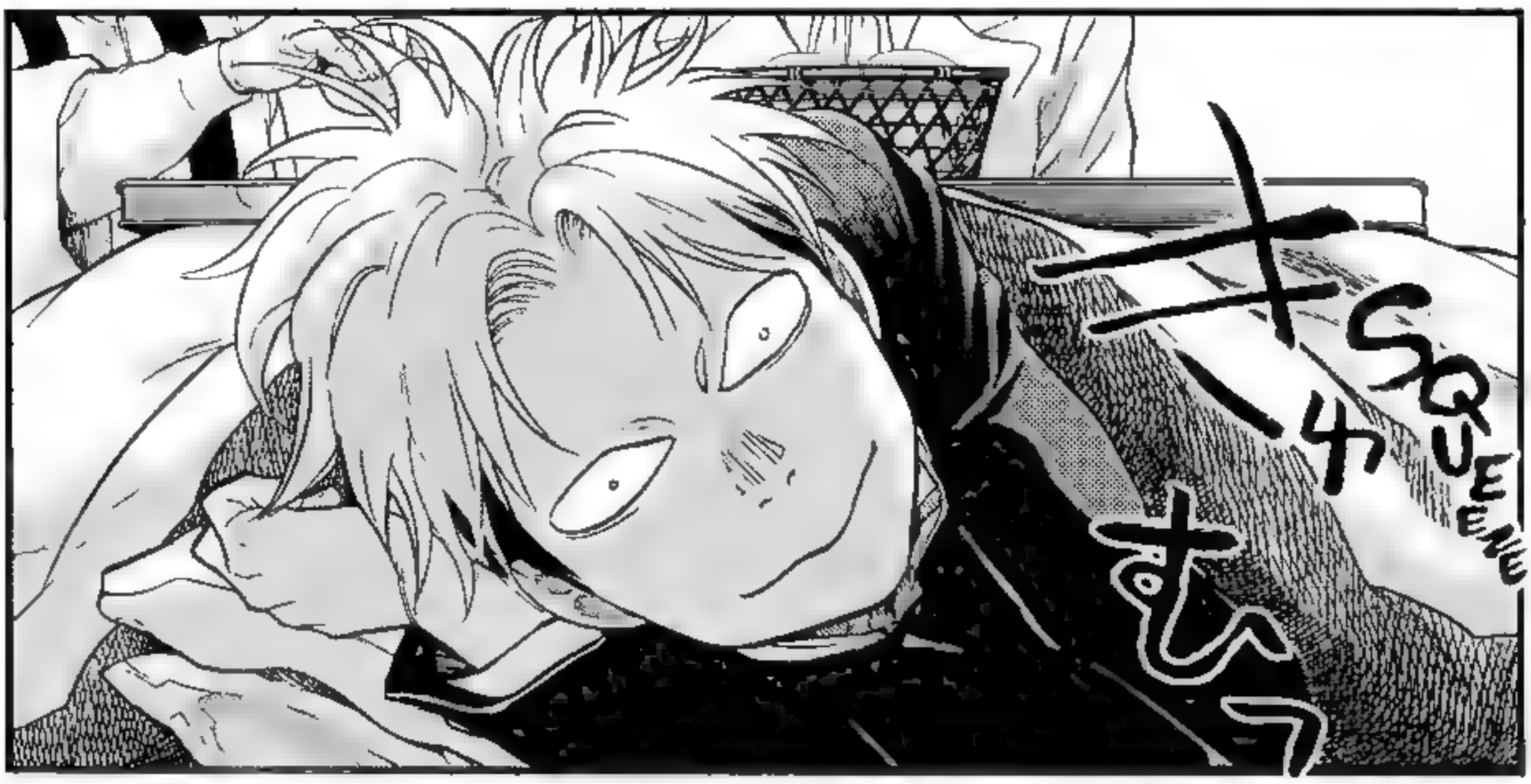
HE'S STILL IN!

HE'S GONE IN FOR A LEG HOOK!

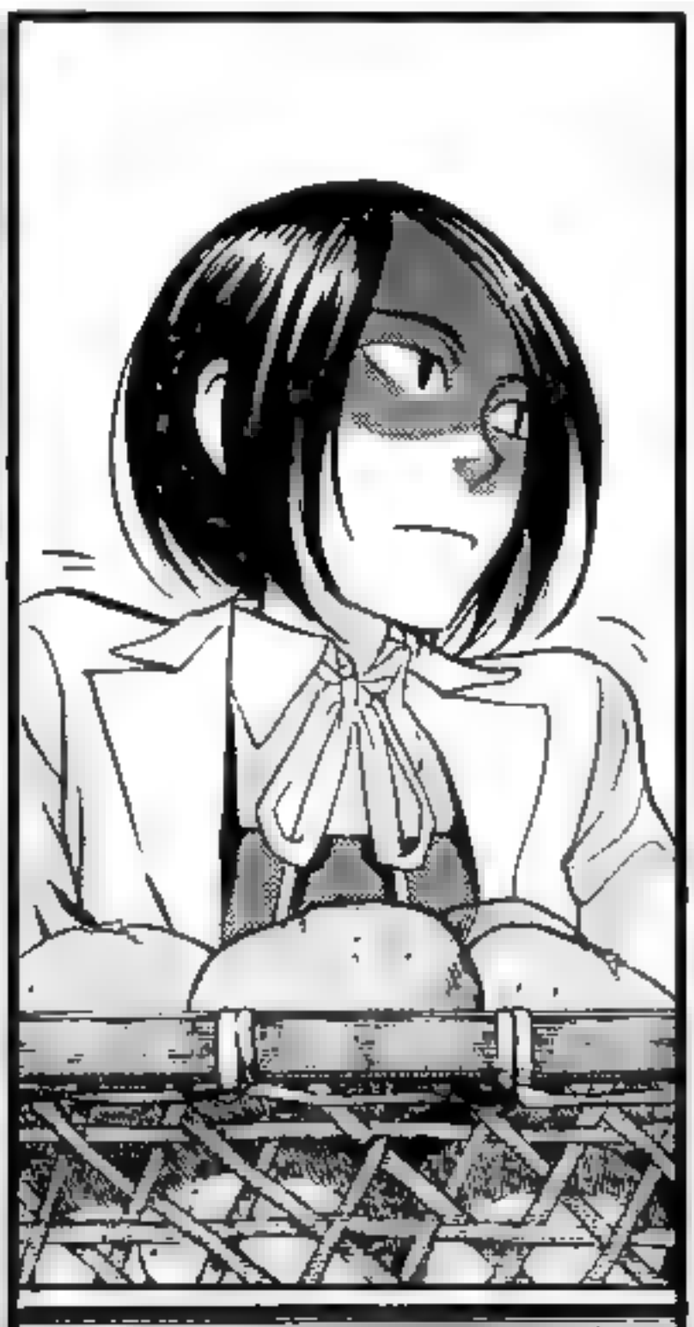
WAAAA

ALL THIS RACKET SHOULD HELP SPOIL THE MOOD.

Tch.


SQUEEN
4

Y-
YOU-



?!

UNH!
MUNCH
MUNCH

HE'S STILL IN!!

WAAA

HE'S STILL IN THE RING!

IT'S NOT OVER YET!

THEY'RE PRESSING THEIR WHOLE BODIES AGAINST EACH OTHER. THAT'S WHAT I LIKE TO SEE!

THEY JUST KEEP GOING!

HE WAS ON THE EDGE OF THE RING, BUT HE MANAGED TO REDIRECT THAT ATTACK!

HE'S PUSHING! PUSHING! PUSHING!

WAAA

MY GRANDMA'S HERE, FOR CHRISSAKE! HOW STUPID ARE YOU?!

AH!!

FWOOSH

STOP IT!

HAVE SOME SHAME, WOMAN!

THIS ISN'T LIKE YOU AT ALL!

YOU'VE BEEN ACTING WEIRD ALL DAY, SHIBATA!

A LADY DOESN'T PULL THIS KIND OF CRAP.

POINK

ハあ あ…

BLUSH

UH-OH…

UNH… UH…

RRCH

WAAH

HELP ME OUT HERE, GRAND-MA!

チラッ

UNH…

UNH…

UNH…

HATER

UNH...

UNH...

...

SHMP

GRAND-MA!

KNOCK KNOCK

BOY, AM I TUCKERED OUT! GOOD NIGHT, KIDS!

I'M SURE YOU'D BE PERFECTLY HAPPY JUST BEING FRIENDS, WOULDN'T YOU? UNH...

IT'S NOT LIKE YOU LIKE ME OR ANY-THING.

UNH... I GET IT.

I UNDERSTAND NOW, THOUGH. YOU DON'T FEEL THE SAME WAY AT ALL.

I MEAN- WELL,

...YOU THINK IT'S GROSS THAT I WANT TO DO STUFF LIKE THAT, DON'T YOU?

I BET...

YOU'RE PROBABLY PRETTY ANNOYED THAT WE'RE HAVING THIS CONVERSATION, AREN'T YOU? SORRY...

=SOB=

...

...

SORRY FOR ASSUMING.

WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO SAY?!

WHAT THE HELL IS THIS?

THE SETUP FOR SOME KIND OF NON SEQUITUR JOKE?

ABSOLUTELY NOT!

NO!

SHUDDER

I DIDN'T MEAN TO STRESS YOU OUT. I'M SORRY.

WANNA FUCK?

COME ON, SHIBATA. DON'T BE LIKE THAT.

AAAAAGH!

IMA-MURA-

COME ON, SAY SOME-THING.

IMA-MURA-KUN?

I'M GOING TO SLEEP.

I'M TIRED.

HUH?!

FWUMP

BEING LIKED IS SO DAMN INCON-VENIENT.

AAAGH.

WAIT.

HEY, IMA-MURA-KUN!

IMA-MURA-KUN?!

IS THIS ME JUST GOING TO SLEEP FOREVER? WILL I DIE?

I DON'T KNOW, BUT, WHATEVER!

IF I END UP BACK IN MY OLD LIFE, THREE YEARS IN THE FUTURE... IF I CAN'T COME BACK HERE...

GET OVER ME ALREADY, SHIBATA.

THERE'S NO TELLING HOW MUCH LONGER I'LL GET TO REMAIN IN THIS WORLD.

I SHOULD GO BACK TO LIVING IN A WORLD WHERE NO ONE NEEDS ME.

SO THERE'S NO MORE NEED FOR ME TO BE HERE.

I'VE ALREADY ACCOMPLISHED MY GOAL OF KEEPING THE OUENDAN ALIVE.

MMMM.

...

CAN I JOIN YOU?

HEY, IMAMURA-KUN.

AFTER ALL, IF I SPEND ANY MORE TIME HERE...

IF I SPEND ANY MORE TIME HERE...

YOU'LL STILL BE MY FRIEND, WON'T YOU?

I'LL ACT LIKE ANY OTHER FRIEND OF YOURS.

START-ING TOMOR-ROW,

ACTUALLY, NEVER MIND.

UH-HUH.

I WON'T TELL SHIBATA ABOUT THE DO-OVER.

I DON'T WANT TO UPSET HER ANY MORE THAN—

CAN I GIVE YOU ONE LAST KISS?

AUGH!

SURE

...

FLINCH

GUH!

I'M SORRY. I'M SORRY!

I GOT SO CAUGHT UP IN THAT KISS, I DIDN'T REALIZE.

I THOUGHT YOU WERE TRYING TO KILL ME.

WHA ?!

YOU'RE PRESSING ON MY WINDPIPE ...

S-S-SORRY !

SHI-BATA ...

THAT HURTS ...

KOLL

KOLL

I WAS SCARED THAT YOU HATED ME.

Y'KNOW,

I'VE BEEN WORRIED SINCE I MET YOU, IMAMURA-KUN.

SHI-
BATA,

IT'S NOT LIKE I DON'T FIND YOU ATTRAC-TIVE.

I'VE NEVER HATED YOU.

I LIKE YOU, IMAMURA-KUN.

YOUR CAP-TAIN'S HERE, TOO!

I RAN INTO HER OUT FRONT.

KIN-CHAN! I'M HOME!

PATTER

PATTER

PATTER

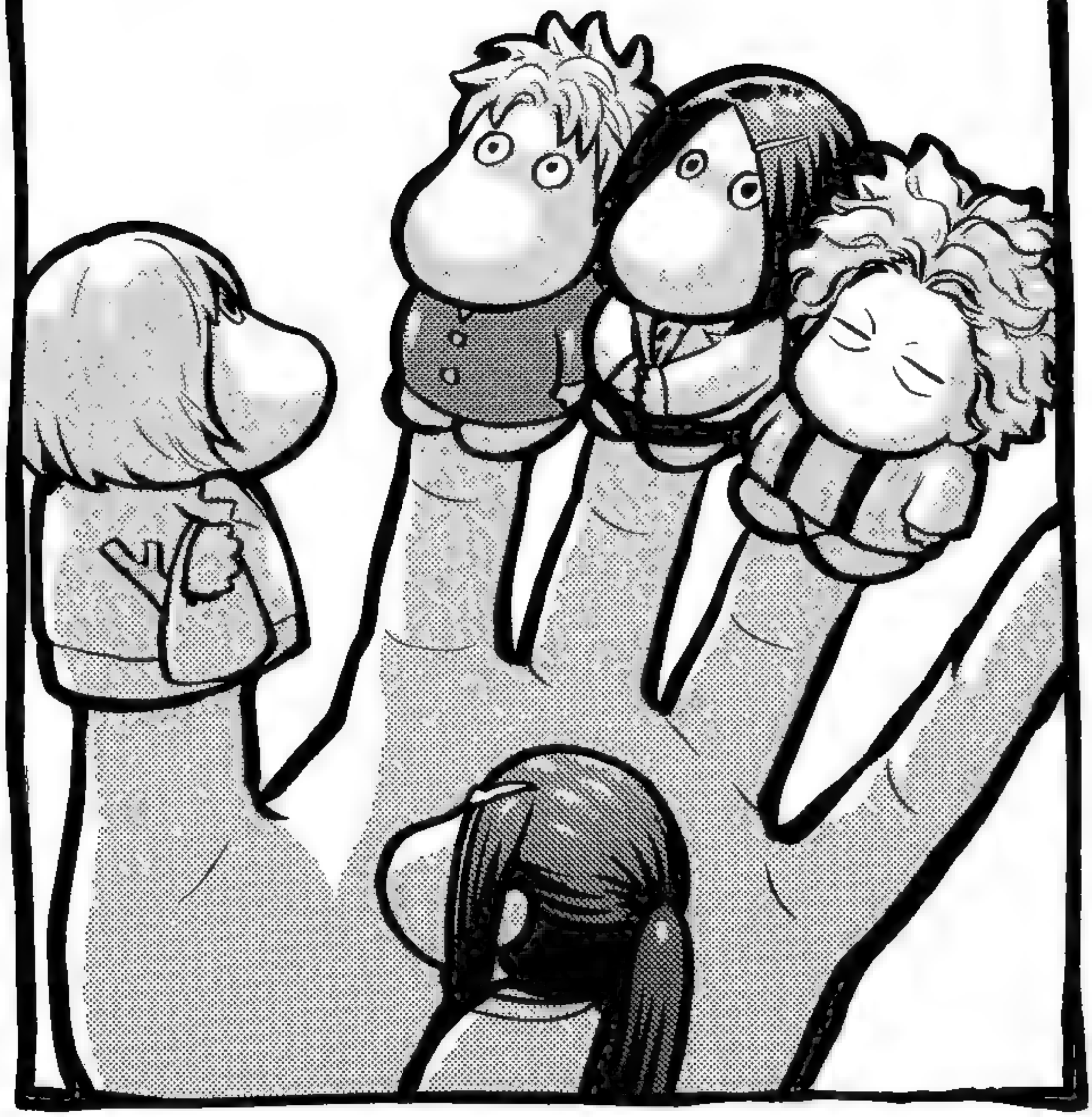
KIN-CHAN? ARE YOU THERE?

SNOOOORE

Again!!

アゲイン!!

73. THE IMAMURA COMEDY HOUR



KIN-
CHAAAN!

YOUR CAPTAIN'S HERE!

...

UH-

UH-OH. WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

NO ONE TOLD ME!

WH-WHAT'S SHE DOING HERE?!

I KNOW I'VE SHOWN UP OUT OF THE BLUE.

I'M SORRY, MA'AM.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT! COME ON IN!

IT WOULDN'T KILL YOU TO SAY HELLO, KIN-CHAN!

WHAT ARE YOU UP TO?

SLIDE

HE'S STILL IN!
HE'S STILL IN!

THIS IS CRUEL, IMA-MURA-KUN.
TH-
WAIT!
I HID SHIBATA, BUT I FORGOT TO HIDE MYSELF...

I'M FINE, THANKS.
I WON'T BE STAYING LONG.
WHY DON'T YOU HAVE DINNER WITH US?
OH, REALLY? WELL, AT LEAST HAVE SOME TEA BEFORE YOU GO.
HUH. WHERE'S MOM?
SHE WENT TO BED.
OH. SEEMS EARLY, BUT OKAY.

HUUUSH

EEK! OKAY, OKAY! YOU'RE SCARING ME!

I'M STARV-ING OVER HERE!

WHAT-EVER, JUST GO COOK DINNER!

FWISH

WE'RE HAVING SOUP!

I CAN'T SAY I'M THRILLED YOU CAME TO MY HOUSE.

SO WHAT DO YOU WANT?

ALL RIGHT, THEN.

I'LL ASK YOU DIRECTLY.

...

ARE YOU TRYING TO SLEEP WITH SHIBATA TO MAKE UP FOR THE FACT THAT YOU CAN'T SLEEP WITH ME?

ARE YOU AND SHIBATA DATING?

NO, WE'RE NOT DATING!

AND WHAT'S IT TO YOU, ANYWAY ?!

TH-

THAT'S THE DUMBEST THING I'VE EVER HEARD! OF COURSE NOT!

BLUR...

BLUR...

...

BUT YOU HAD NO REASON TO STICK WITH IT ONCE YOU LOST INTEREST IN ME. SO, YOU'RE QUITTING. AM I WRONG?

YOU JOINED THE OUENDAN BECAUSE YOU LIKED ME, DIDN'T YOU?

I MEAN, GET OVER YOURSELF! YOU'RE NOT EXACTLY DRIPPING SEX APPEAL, CAPTAIN!

JUST 'CAUSE I'M A GUY DOESN'T MEAN I'D MAKE A DECISION LIKE THAT WITH MY DICK!

WOW, SEXIST, MUCH?

NO! IMAMURA-KUN! YOU TELL HER,

SO YOU DON'T FIND ME ATTRACTIVE AT ALL?

I SEE ...

PHEW!

YOU DID THAT ALL ON YOUR OWN.

NOPE.

THEN YOU DIDN'T FEEL ANYTHING WHEN I KISSED YOU?

IS THAT TRUE?

NO. NOT AT ALL.

N-

SO YOU DON'T LIKE ME?

I KEEP TELLING YOU! NO!

AND YOU DON'T EVER *PLAN* ON LIKING ME?

LET'S SEE ABOUT THAT.

SHA-
SHUMP

?

HM?

HUUUSH

SHUMP!

...

SHI-
BATA!

THIS
IS...

UHH...

WAIT.

SO
YOU
ARE
HERE.

FWISH

YEAH!

ME NEITH-ER!

NOPE!

SHAKE

N-

YOU DIDN'T FEEL A THING, DID YOU, IMAMURA?

NO, MA'AM!

SHAKE

NO ROMANTIC FEELINGS WILL COME BETWEEN US!

BUT THIS SETTLES IT!

I WAS WORRIED I MIGHT BE FALLING FOR YOU.

THIS IS GREAT!

AND YOU KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS?

WE CAN FORGE A TRUE BOND THAT GOES BEYOND THE ROLES OF MAN AND WOMAN!

THAT WILL BE NECESSARY FOR MY IDEAL OUENDAN!

SO, LET ME GET THIS STRAIGHT.

IF YOU DON'T THINK OF MEN AS ANYTHING BUT POTENTIAL BOYFRIENDS,

YOU WON'T GET ANY-WHERE IN LIFE.

SHI-SHI-BATA ...

IS THAT WHAT YOU'RE TRYING TO SAY?

YOU THINK GETTING TURNED ON BY A KISS MAKES YOU A WORSE PERSON.

IT SEEMS PRETTY UNNATURAL TO ME FOR A GUY AND A GIRL TO BE SO INDIFFERENT ABOUT KISSING EACH OTHER.

KISSING SOMEONE AND FEELING NOTHING MEANS YOU HAVE A TRUE BOND?

ぽん
PAT

PEOPLE LIKE YOU GET SO ADDICTED TO ROMANCE THAT YOU LOSE YOURSELF IN IT.

AS THINGS STAND, YOU'RE NOTHING BUT AN IMPEDIMENT TO IMAMURA.

WHOSE SIDE... ...ARE YOU ON?

TURN

FLINCH

HUH ?!

YOU JUST CAN'T SAY NO TO A KISS, CAN YOU?

WOW, IMA-MURA-KUN.

WOW.

I'M DISAP-POINTED IN YOU.

SLAM

I WAS SO BUSY CLEANING THE TUB I DIDN'T NOTICE.

WAS SOME-ONE ELSE HERE?

HUH?

I FEEL LIKE SHIT.

I NEVER THOUGHT I CARED WHO HATED ME,

BUT DAMN.

UNH...

I HATE THIS!

ULU-ULU-UNH...

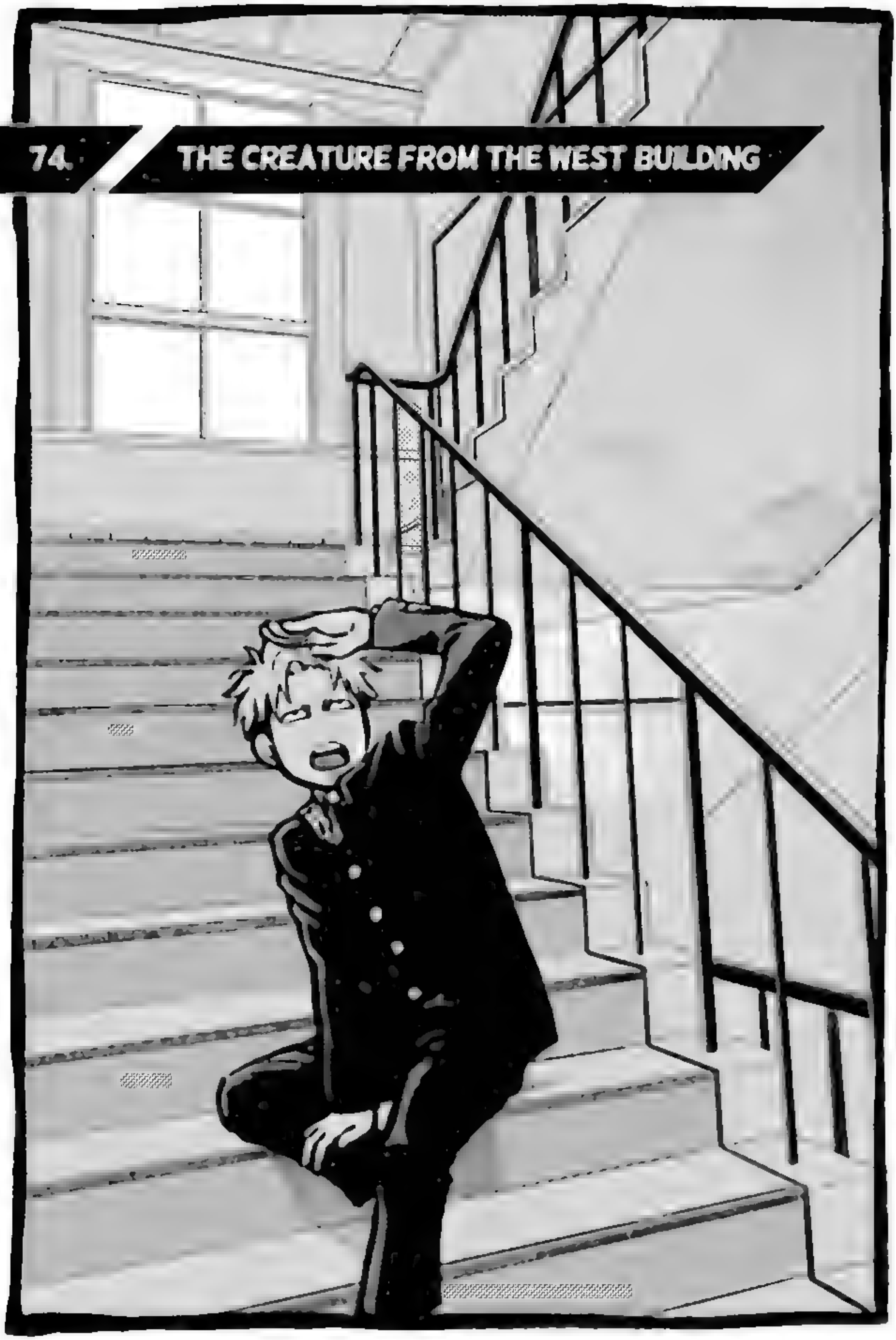
UNH...

GOD, IMA-MURA! YOU'RE SUCH AN ASS-HOLE!

Again!!

アゲイン!!

74. THE CREATURE FROM THE WEST BUILDING



AWW, WHAT ?!

MY BRAIN-WASHING OF SHIBATA DIDN'T WORK?!

THAT'S NO FUN.

"

THWUNK

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO GOT HER ACTING ALL WEIRD ?!

IT WAS YOU, HIRO-KUN?!

THUNK

THUNK

GUH!

ALL SHE DID WAS ACT IN ACCORD WITH HER DESIRES.

IS IT REALLY THAT WEIRD FOR A GIRL TO MAKE A MOVE LIKE THAT?

I'M DISAP-POINTED IN YOU.

LET'S FIGURE OUT HOW TO MAKE SOME CASH!

IMA-MURA!

COME ON!

IF SHIBATA DIDN'T DO IT FOR YOU, THEN WHAT'S YOUR TYPE? I'LL FIND YOU A MATCH.

IN FACT, YOU SHOULD FOLLOW YOUR DESIRES LIKE SHE DID.

GLOOM

SCRIBBLE
SCRIBBLE
SCRIBBLE
SCRIBBLE
WE DIDN'T HAVE *THAT* MUCH HOME-WORK.
WHAT'S UP, REO? YOU'RE WORKING AWFULLY HARD.
IT'S BORING TO LIMIT MYSELF TO WHAT WE'RE ASSIGN-ED.
I DON'T WANT TO WASTE MY HIGH SCHOOL CAREER JUST STUDYING FOR EXAMS.
I WANT TO WORK OVER-SEAS SOMEDAY.
SO I'VE GOT TO BROADEN MY PER-SPECTIVE.

IN THE END, HIRO-KUN DID MANAGE TO CHANGE SHIBATA.

GRRR GRRR

ANYWAY, I PREFER THIS TO HOW WEIRD AND ON-EDGE YOU WERE YESTERDAY

WELL, YOU ALWAYS HAVE BEEN SMART. I'M SURE YOU CAN GO PLACES IF YOU WORK AT IT.

HUH... YOU'VE STARTED THINKING GLOBAL.

GLOBAL...

MUMBLE MUMBLE

WHILE I'M SITTING HERE GOING BACK AND FORTH ON WHETHER I SHOULD HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH ANYONE IN THIS DO-OVER WORLD...

...HIRO-KUN COULD BE OUT THERE CHANGING ALL KINDS OF THINGS WITHOUT A SECOND THOUGHT!

...

HEY.

EARTH TO MAMURA!

I HATE THAT ASS-HOLE!

I HATE HIM SO MUCH!

DO YOU HAVE A MOMENT?

FUJI-EDA?

DO YOU KNOW HOW FAR THEY'VE GONE TOGETHER?

IT'S ABOUT REO-CHAN AND HIRO-KUN.

GULP...

THAT WOULD BE A PAIN IN THE ASS.

IF I TELL HER HIRO-KUN JUMPED BACK IN TIME, TOO, SHE'S GOING TO FIND OUT HE DOESN'T LIKE HER.

No question.

COME ON!

TELL ME!

YOU, OF ALL PEOPLE, HAVE TO KNOW SOME-THING, RIGHT? RIGHT?

THEY'RE ALREADY GOING ON KARAOKE DATES, AREN'T THEY?

WHAT?

SHAKE

SHAKE

SHAKE

ZAKSSSSH

YOU LOOK DOWN ON ME, DON'T YOU?

GOD... YOU GET A LITTLE POPULAR IN THE DO-OVER WORLD AND IT GOES STRAIGHT TO YOUR HEAD!

GRRR

SHIBATA'S NOT THAT KIND OF GIRL.

YOU'RE IMAGINING THINGS, FUJIEDA. NOTHING'S GOING ON BETWEEN THOSE TWO.

SO IT DOESN'T EVEN MATTER WHAT YOU DO HERE, 'CAUSE PRETTY MUCH ANYTHING IS BETTER THAN HOW THINGS WERE.

YOU'RE LUCKY, IMAMURA. YOU DIDN'T HAVE ANYTHING GOING FOR YOU BEFORE. YOU WERE LONELY AND FRIEND-LESS.

YOU THINK I'VE LOST IT 'CAUSE I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO HASN'T GOTTEN ANY-THING OUT OF THIS DO-OVER!

YES YOU DO!

NO I DON'T!

I'M NOT HAVING ANY FUN AT ALL.

...WAS PERMANENTLY RUIN MY LIFE.

BUT ALL DOING THINGS OVER DID FOR ME...

LOOK HOW NEGATIVE I'VE GOTTEN! I NEVER USED TO SAY STUFF LIKE THIS!

IT'S YOUR FAULT, IMA-MURA!

...

HAPPY NOW?

MY BAD.

I MUST BE A REAL MONSTER FOR DOING THAT TO SUCH A POSITIVE PERSON. FOR SHAME.

...

UH-HUH.

YES!

ARE YOU SUG-GESTING MY CYNICISM IS CONTA-GIOUS?

WHINING ABOUT HOW THINGS USED TO BE DIFFERENT WON'T CHANGE SHIT!

IF YOU THINK LIFE IS SUPPOSED TO BE ALL SUNSHINE AND RAIN-BOWS, THEN HAVE I GOT NEWS FOR YOU!

YOU HAVE TO GET OUT THERE AND FIND SOMETHING NEW FOR YOURSELF!

WHY IS THIS HAPPEN-ING?

GOD DAMN IT.

WAAAAH!

GO DIE, IMA-MURA! YOU'RE AN ASS-HOLE!

SMACK!

SMACK

SMACK

DID I GO TOO FAR?

MY SOCIAL LIFE HAS GOTTEN SO COMPLI-CATED ALL OF A SUDDEN.

OF COURSE, I WAS ALWAYS A LONER, SO I'M NOT PARTICULARLY ATTACHED TO THE WAY THINGS USED TO BE.

CHANGE ONE THING AND THERE'S NO TELLING WHAT SIDE EFFECTS TO EXPECT.

I MEAN, I MANAGED TO KEEP THE OUENDAN FROM FALLING APART,

BUT NOW WE'RE ON A WHOLE DIFFER-ENT TIME-LINE.

BUT FUJIEDA USED TO HAVE IT ALL. THIS MUST REALLY SUCK FOR HER.

MAYBE I SHOULD THROW MYSELF TO MY DEATH THEN HIRO-KUN WOULD

I JUST WANT TO DIE!

HIC! UNH. UU- UNH !

HOW DO I MAKE MYSELF FEEL BETTER?

UNH-

HGH...

NOOO!

I HATE GETTING ALL HYSTER-ICAL LIKE THIS!

FLINCH

!!!

WHAT'S WITH THIS PILE OF GARBAGE?

IS NOBODY USING THIS ROOM?

WAIT...

THEATRE CLUB

SO THIS IS WHERE THE THEATRE CLUB'S ROOM WAS.

IT LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE EVEN DEADER THAN THE OUENDAN WAS, THOUGH.

I NEVER MET ANYBODY WHO WAS IN THIS CLUB.

WHOA!

WHAT A MESS!

SCHIF!

WHO'S THERE?

CLATTER

UGH, THOSE PLAYS THEY PUT ON FOR THE CULTURE FAIR WERE SO BORING!

AND THE PERFORM-ERS? TALK ABOUT UGLY. IT HURT TO WATCH.

AM I THE ONE...

...YOU'RE CALLING UGLY?

TUP TUP TUP TUP TUP

NOPE! NOPE! NOPE! TOO SCARY!

AAAAGH!

RUSTLE...

RUSTLE...

GULP

THAT'S IT! I REMEMBER NOW!

あ!!! JOLT !!!

OH!

THERE'S ONE PERSON AT THIS SCHOOL I CAN USE TO MAKE SOME MONEY.

SIGH ...

THAT GIRL FROM THE THEATRE CLUB...

I WANT TO DIE.

THIS IS THE AFTERWORD!

The uniform I drew myself wearing in my message on the other side of the front cover of this volume wasn't quite right, actually...

My school's uniform was pretty boring, so once, I dressed up in a uniform I liked instead for an interview for a magazine. That was really fun.

2012.12.久保ミツロウ☆

Mitsurou Kubo, December 2012

☆ My Agent: Hiromi Sakitani

☆ My Assistants: Shunsuke Ono

Youko Mikuni

Hiromu Kitano

Rana Satou

Koushi Tezuka

Kouhei Mihara

75. NEGATIVITY MONSTER

I WANT TO DIE

MAYBE...

...I SHOULD QUIT THE THEATRE CLUB.

WAIT ...

WAS THAT...?

@TAKA_Destiny_
I want to die ~\(^o^)/~

GUUUUH...

...IT MUST BE UNBEARABLE TO DO THINGS OVER AND END UP ALL ALONE.

FOR SOMEONE WHO USED TO HAVE IT ALL...

I'm fine, but that's me.

I CAN'T BELIEVE HOW DEPRESSED FUJIEDA'S GOTTEN. SHE USED TO BE SO STUPIDLY HAPPY... I GUESS SHE'S GOING THROUGH A LOT RIGHT NOW.

Before

After

HMM...

I WAS PRETTY HARSH. UGH...

THE CAPTAIN'S RECRUITING NEW MEMBERS TO KEEP THE OUENDAN GOING.

SHIBATA'S FOUND A PURPOSE IN STUDYING SO SHE CAN WORK OVERSEAS.

I MEAN, SINCE WE'RE DOING THINGS OVER, ANYWAY.

SO REALLY, WE JUST NEED TO FIND SOMETHING NEW FOR FUJIEDA TO DO!

THEN AGAIN, IT'S NOT LIKE I'M DOING MUCH.

SO I DOUBT SHE WANTS TO HEAR THAT FROM ME.

HEY HEY HEY HEY! IMAMURA, THIS IS BIG! COME HERE!

SLIDE

SHE'S IN THE BACK OF THIS PHOTO OF THE THEATRE CLUB FROM THIS GRADUATION YEARBOOK!

THAT'S HER!

HERE SHE IS!

I'M TALKING ABOUT *TAKA!*

YOU DON'T KNOW?

WHO DO YOU MEAN?

SO IT'S TRUE! SHE REALLY WAS IN THE THEATRE CLUB.

SHE WENT TO OUR HIGH SCHOOL!

WAIT...

TAKA? YOU MEAN THE COLLEGE GIRL SEX ICON?!

THAT'S RIGHT!

SHE'S STILL IN HER THIRD YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL IN THIS WORLD!

B-BAM

TURNS OUT THE RUMORS WERE TRUE.

I RAN INTO HER OUTSIDE THE THEATRE CLUB ROOM NOT TOO LONG AGO.

THE RUMORS?

YEAH! FOR REAL!

OH MY GOD! ARE YOU SERIOUS?!

ME NEI-THER!

BACK THEN, NO ONE EXPECTED HER TO BECOME FAMOUS LIKE THAT.

I NEVER NOTICED HER.

I MEAN, LOOK. CAN'T YOU TELL?

SHE GOT SURGERY.

PLASTIC SURGERY.

...

OH, HEY!

I THINK I SAW THAT.

SHE EVEN WENT ON TV AND TALKED ABOUT HOW SHE WAS SO UNPOPULAR AND UGLY AND USED TO GET BULLIED IN HIGH SCHOOL!

NO WAY! YOU MUST HAVE BEEN SO POPULAR, THOUGH.

NOT IN THE SLIGHTEST!

HIGH SCHOOL WAS THE WORST.

!!!

HIGH SCHOOL WAS THE WORST...

I WAS CHAIR OF THE THEATRE CLUB, BUT WE DIDN'T HAVE MANY MEMBERS. STILL, THAT WAS THE ONLY PLACE I FELT LIKE I BELONGED.

I THOUGHT ABOUT KILLING MYSELF MORE THAN ONCE.

I GOT BULLIED A LOT BACK THEN.

PEOPLE CALLED ME UGLY, GROSS, EMBARRASSING...

...THAT I'VE GROWN TO BE SO MUCH STRONGER.

AND I THINK IT'S BECAUSE I WENT THROUGH ALL THAT IN HIGH SCHOOL...

THAT'S WHY I HOPE I CAN BE A SOURCE OF COURAGE FOR ANYONE WHO'S HAVING A ROUGH TIME IN SCHOOL NOW.

SHUT UP!

HOW NOBLE!

SHE'S STYLISH, SMART, AND HOT.

AND COOL, TOO.

OH, YEAH? I LIKE HER.

SHE'S TOO OPTIMISTIC. IT'S GRATING.

I HATE TAKA.

GRADUATION

IS THIS REALLY ALL YOU HAD?

EH.

DON'T YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT SHE'S LIKE?

WHAT'S THE POINT OF MEETING HER LIKE THIS?

YEAH, AFTER SHE GETS PLASTIC SURGERY. SHE'S UGLY NOW, THOUGH.

HEH HEH HEH...

...I'M THINKING I MIGHT JOIN THE THEATRE CLUB!

AC-TUALLY ...

DAM

I WANT TO TRY MY HAND AT CHANGING FATE WITH THIS DO-OVER!

THERE COULD BE BENEFITS DOWN THE ROAD!

SHE'S GOING TO BECOME FA-MOUS, SO IF I GET ON HER GOOD SIDE NOW,

HUH ?!

IN FACT...

...YOU COULD SAY I'M GOING TO CHEER THE THEATRE CLUB ON.

FUJI-EDA,

IF *TAKA* HAS TOO GOOD A TIME IN HIGH SCHOOL, ISN'T THAT GOING TO CHANGE HER DESTINY AND KEEP HER FROM BECOMING A STAR?

WHAT ?!

BACK TO CLASS.

THIS IS WHAT I WANT TO DO! WHY AREN'T YOU CHEERING ME ON?

HEY!RT

...WHAT'S WRONG WITH THE WAY THINGS ARE?

UH ...

SO, I MEAN, IF SHE'S GOING TO END UP HAPPY, ANYWAY...

SHE ONLY BECAME THE TAKA WE KNOW BECAUSE SHE GOT BULLIED IN HIGH SCHOOL, RIGHT?

CLATTER ガシャン

JUST HOW UGLY IS SHE NOW?

TAKA, HUH?

AND THE THEATRE CLUB OF ALL THINGS.

THAT TAKES SOME GUTS.

HEY! IMAMURA!

GLNT!!

TAKA?

TAKA-P!!!

.30 SI TREMBLE

.30 SI TREMBLE

HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT NAME?

HOW ...

HEY.

YOU'RE NOT THAT UGLY.

NOT REALLY.

?

?

OH!

WHAT KIND OF SURGERY ARE YOU GETTING ?!

YOU'RE EVEN TALLER IN REAL LIFE!

YOU'RE SO TALL!

HOW MANY CENTI-METERS ARE YOU?

WAAAAAAAAAAAAH

ACK!

SORRY!

YOU HAVE SOME FACIAL HAIR RIGHT THERE.

BLUUUUSH

かぁぁおっ

GRAB

がしっ

I DON'T KNOW.

BY THE WAY, WHAT'S HER REAL NAME?

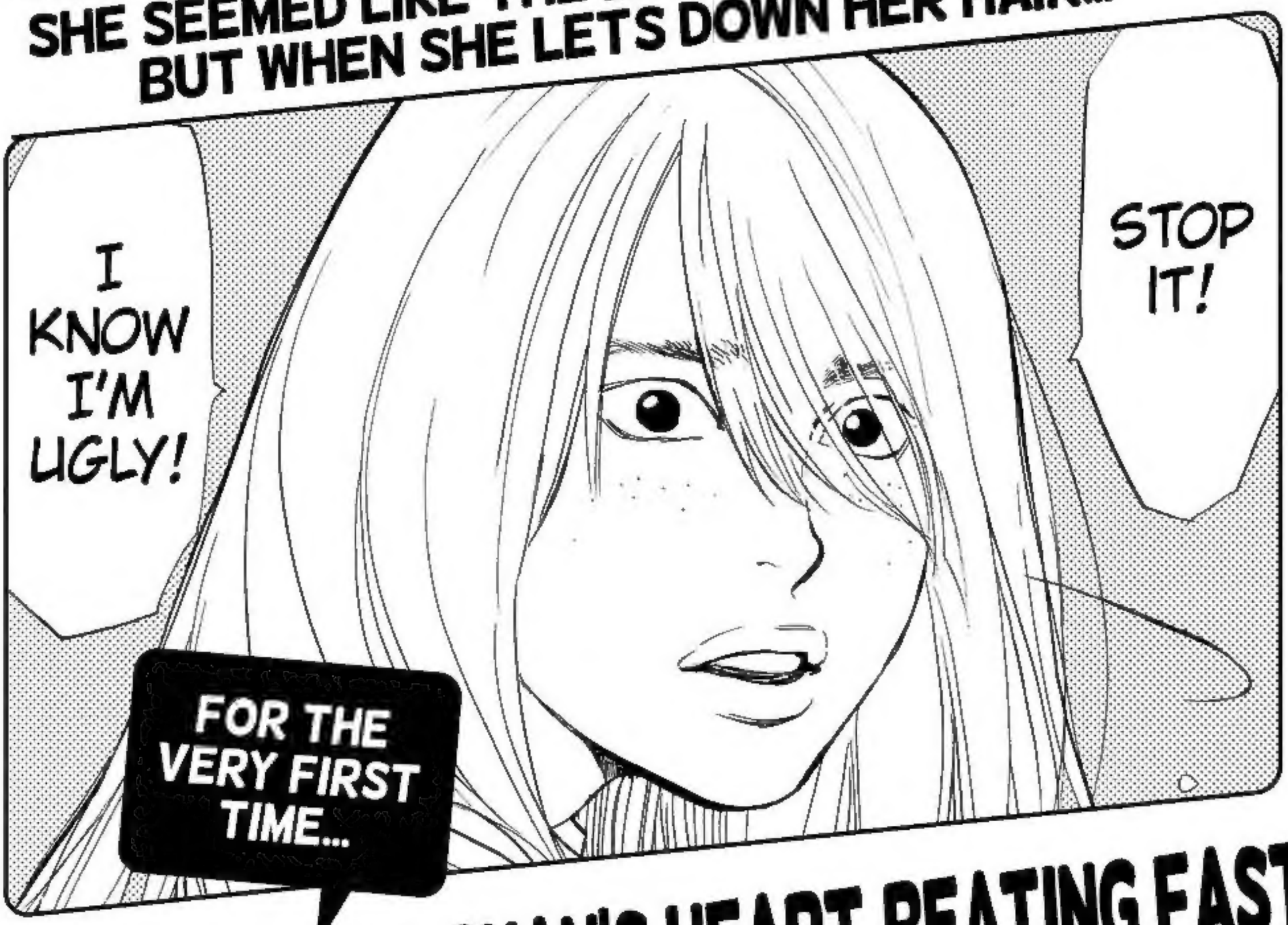
@TAKA_Dest
this suuuucks.
I want to die *\(^o^)/*
seriously I'm done *\(^o^)/*

TO BE CONTINUED IN VOLUME 8...

IN THE NEXT VOLUME...

...NO ONE LISTENS NOW THAT YOU'RE CHAIR. DON'T YOU HAVE ANY SHAME?
THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO AS YOUR CLUB SPONSOR. I'M SORRY, BUT...
HANATAKA-SAN! WHERE'S YOUR SPIRIT? YOU'RE THE CLUB CHAIR!

SHE SEEMED LIKE THE BOTTOM OF THE BARREL, BUT WHEN SHE LETS DOWN HER HAIR...



SHE'S GOT KIN-CHAN'S HEART BEATING FAST!

MAKES SENSE, THOUGH. IT'S NOT LIKE WE KNOW EACH OTHER.

AT A TIME LIKE THIS...

WHAT MADE MY HEART GO WILD LIKE THAT? I CAN'T LET HIRO-KUN HAVE HIS WAY... BUT I'VE ALREADY BEEN REJECTED...

AND USAMI ENTERS THE FRAY!!!

YOU SHOULD HAVE CALLED THE OUENDAN SOONER, DAMN IT!

IF YOU CAN'T GIVE THE THEATRE CLUB YOUR ALL, WE'LL JUST HAVE TO CHEER YOU ON!

Again!!
アゲイン!!

VOLUME 8 COMING SOON

THE OUENDAN'S THEATRE CLUB ARC STARTS NOW!

LIKE IT OR NOT!

Again!! 7

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